

# ANALYSIS

OF THE

## ROCKBRIDGE ALUM SPRINGS, IN VIRGINIA.

WITH SOME ACCOUNT OF THEIR HISTORY, AND THE PROPERTIES OF THE WATER, IN LETTERS OF EMINENT PHYSICIANS AND OTHER GENTLEMEN.

TO WHICH ARE ADDED

A FEW CERTIFICATES

OUT OF MANY,

IN THE VARIOUS FORMS OF DISEASE WHICH HAVE  
BEEN CURED BY THESE WATERS.

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FOR TERMS OF BOARD AND COST OF WATER IN BOTTLES

See Other Side of This Page.

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### ROUTE TO THE SPRINGS:

From Washington, D. C., and all points north of it, the route is either by Va. Midland and Great Southern via Charlottesville and Staunton to Goshen depot, or via Harper's Ferry and Staunton to Goshen depot.

From all points south of Lynchburg pass through Lynchburg and Staunton to Goshen.

**ROCKBRIDGE ALUM SPRINGS CO.,**

Owners and Proprietors.

OFFICERS  
OF  
ROCKBRIDGE ALUM SPRINGS COMPANY.

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J. F. EFFINGER.....PRESIDENT  
R. W. BURKE.....TREASURER  
J. STAIGE DAVIS, M. D.....RESIDENT PHYSICIAN  
WALDO M. ALLEN.....COMPANY'S AGENT

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO  
**WALDO M. ALLEN, Agt.,**  
*ROCKBRIDGE ALUM SPRINGS,*  
**ROCKBRIDGE CO.,**  
VIRGINIA.

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TERMS:

Single Month, 28 Days.....\$60  
Two Months, " " .....each \$50  
Per Day.....\$2.50  
Children and Servants, Half-Price.

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ROCKBRIDGE ALUM WATER

Will be sold in cases of one dozen half-gallon bottles, delivered on the cars of C. & O. R. R., at Goshen, at \$5.00 per case, and will shortly be placed with leading Druggists of the U. S. and Canada.

**SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH R. R. COMPANY  
AS TO FREIGHT.**

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ROCKBRIDGE ALUM SPRINGS COMPANY,  
OWNERS AND PROPRIETORS.



## Editorial from the Richmond Dispatch.

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The following EDITORIAL appeared in the RICHMOND DISPATCH, June 3d, 1875, from the pen of JAMES COWARDIN, SR., who has KNOWN THESE SPRINGS MANY YEARS, which will speak for itself. Coming, as it does, from such a source, guarantees the truthfulness of the statement:

“ROCKBRIDGE ALUM SPRINGS.—Leaving the surf, and the white waves, and the great ships of the sea, and taking refuge among the hills and health-giving fountains of the Alleghanies, we come to the Rockbridge Alum Springs, now so famous for the curative powers of their waters. It has gained renown more rapidly than any known water, and is always visited by the invalid with a hope that equals faith. Few springs have done so much for the good of men within twenty years as the Rockbridge Alum. In all diseases of the digestive organs, the liver, blood, mucous membrane, and skin, more or less relief has been found there. Among the cases have been found cures almost miraculous.

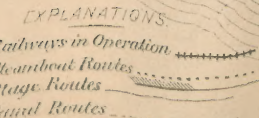
“The proprietor of the Rockbridge Alum has not neglected the pleasures of his summer resort, but has enhanced them on a liberal scale. The means of ministering to the gaiety and cheerfulness of the guests are provided in a judicious manner. The throng at the ‘Rockbridge Alum’ always shows that it is ‘gay and festive.’ They are always sure of a bright season, while the invalid enters the grounds with the confident air of one who had ‘come to get well.’”



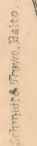


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## ROCKBRIDGE ALUM SPRINGS.

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This great fountain of health, with all its appurtenances having recently passed into the ownership and possession of a joint-stock company, the new proprietors wish to address a few plain words to the public; and first of all to the *invalid public*, for this is the constituency which first gave these Springs their unrivaled fame. Our constant effort shall be to provide for their comfort and well-being in all respects, and chiefly in suitable diet, properly prepared and served, in healthful and comfortable lodgings and careful attendance.

To all that large element in American Society who seek each summer a brief escape from the heat of cities and the lowlands, the turmoils of business and the market-place, the wear and tear of the office and the counting-room, we desire to say that no where on the continent can rest, recreation and rational enjoyment be more surely found than beneath the shades of these great Virginia mountains; whilst the specific qualities of these mineral waters greatly and rapidly aid the ordinary forces of nature in restoring and reinvigorating the enfeebled constitution.


Not wishing to indulge in extravagant promises, we simply say that no effort shall be spared on our part to do our whole duty to the springs-going public, and so restore to the "Old Rock Alum" its pristine fame, as not merely the most health-giving of all our noted Virginia springs, but at the same time one of the most charming and attractive summer resorts.

# ROCKBRIDGE ALUM SPRINGS.

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## ROUTES TO THE SPRINGS—FACILITY OF ACCESS.

THIS celebrated watering-place, although situated in the mountains of Virginia, 160 miles west of Richmond, and 40 southwest of Staunton, is now brought, by the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad, within easy access of the Atlantic seaboard, and is the first of all the Western springs reached by the traveler. The cars now run within *five miles* of the place; so that it is brought within twenty-four hours of New York; and the Northern passenger, leaving Baltimore or Washington in the morning, and the Southern, breakfasting in Richmond, take tea the same evening at the Rockbridge Springs.

 Let the Northern traveler be careful *not* to go as far south as Richmond, but from Washington City take the *Virginia Midland Railroad* to Charlottesville, which there connects with the Chesapeake and Ohio. The Southern visitor coming by way of the Atlantic seaboard route, must be careful to come as far north as Richmond, making that a point whence he will proceed by the Chesapeake and Ohio cars to Goshen.

Persons from the South and Southwest, passing over the Tennessee Railroad, make Lynchburg a point, thence to Charlottesville, where they take the Central cars, passing in full view of the University of Virginia.

Visitors to these Springs get off the cars at Goshen Depot, 8 miles from the Springs, and are conveyed up the valley in coaches or omnibuses to the Springs.

The Natural Bridge, being in the same county with this Spring, and to which it gives its name, is an object of great attraction to the visitors.

## MEDICAL PROPERTIES OF THE WATER.

For fifty years or more, these Springs (without any other sort of advertising than that afforded by the visitors themselves, who have either experienced or witnessed the cures wrought by them) have gradually extended their fame throughout Virginia and the South. To make their healing virtues more widely and more accurately known to the whole public, is the object of this pamphlet. The



proprietors have great pleasure in presenting the following letters from distinguished gentlemen of different States and professions.

*Letter from JOHN STAIGE DAVIS, M.A., M.D., Professor of Anatomy and Materia Medica, University of Virginia, and at present Resident Physician Rockbridge Alum Springs.*

ROCKBRIDGE ALUM SPRINGS, September 8, 1880.

J. FRED. EFFINGER, Pres. Rockbridge Alum Springs Co.:

Dear Sir.—Your letter of the 17th inst. reached me by the last mail, and I hasten to answer it. I have been "Resident Physician" at these Springs for the last eight years, and was also here as an invalid for a portion of two summers, 1853 and 1855.

Most of the effects which I daily observe from the use of the waters, are such as the presence of their chief ingredients might suggest. These are Alumina, free from Sulphuric Acid and Iron, and accordingly their most conspicuous properties are Astringent and Tonic, adapting them to the cure of *Chronic Diarrhœa*, *Chronic Dysentery*, *Chronic Bronchitis*, *Catarrh of the Throat and Nasal Passages*, *Hemorrhage from the Kidneys*, and *Anæmia*. It always gives much greater efficacy to appropriate treatment of *Leucorrhœa* and *Menorrhagia*, and often entirely supersedes the necessity for it. But this Alum Water also proves signally beneficial in several other diseases where its action can neither be anticipated nor explained. In *Scrofula*, for example, even though apparently inveterate, it makes many cures, which the sequel proves are permanent. In *Incipient Phthisis* the symptoms often disappear. In *Diabetes Mellitus*, the urine ceases to be saccharine, and the strength and flesh return.—Various *Cutaneous Eruptions*, especially those of the Vesicular and Pustular Classes, commonly get well. And *Inactivity of the Liver* is relieved with a promptness and certainty which the minute proportions of the alkaline and alkaline-earth salts in the water would not have prepared one to expect. But perhaps the place is more resorted to for the cure of *Dyspepsia* than with any other single purpose, and it is matter of common observation that in the course of two or three weeks the appetite returns, and the digestion becomes healthy and vigorous.

I am, dear sir, very truly yours,

J. S. DAVIS, M. D., *Resident Physician.*

From Dr. Cartwright, of New Orleans, whose eminent medical character, no less than his personal familiarity with the leading springs of Europe and this country, stamps his opinion with the highest authority.

He spent two years in visiting and examining the various Spas in Europe.

DR. CARTWRIGHT'S Letter.

NEW ORLEANS, July 28, 1855.

Dear Sir.—Names are something, and the name "*Alum*," given to the Rockbridge *Acidulous Ferruginous Springs*, is a misnomer, as it conveys the erroneous idea that their medicinal virtues are chiefly

owing to the alum they contain; whereas the water, in addition to the alum, contains nearly every medical substance of the most celebrated Mineral Springs of Europe. Why not, therefore, give it a name that would not lead to error? Why not drop the word *alum*, and call it simply Rockbridge water? The Tunbridge water may with as much propriety be called *table-salt* water as yours *alum*. Common salt and alum can be had anywhere; no need of going to Tunbridge or Rockbridge to get one or the other. But the Tunbridge and the Rockbridge waters both contain a number of other substances, as protoxide of iron and the salts of lime, magnesia and soda, with more or less carbonic acid. Besides containing all the principal ingredients found in the Tunbridge and Bath Mineral Springs of England, so celebrated for scrofulous affections and many chronic ailments, your Rockbridge water agrees with that of Aix-la-Chapelle in containing silicic acid. It hardly needs to be added that the water of the Aix-la-Chapelle Springs, internally and externally used, has long been famous for the cure of chronic rheumatism. The styptic taste, transparency and inodorous character of the acidulous ferruginous waters of Rockbridge county, Virginia, attracted invalids to use them, as the same sensible qualities in the Bath waters attracted the Romans soon after the conquest of England.

Although inodorous and transparent, the Rockbridge water has a blackish and rather repulsive appearance in the Springs. In this it agrees with the mineral waters of Bagnères, in Upper Garonne, which comes out of a mountain of similar geological formation with the mountain in the vicinity of the Rockbridge Springs. The Bagnères water has long been very popular for the cure of stiffness of the limbs, lymphatic congestions, engorgement of the joints, paralysis, dyspepsia, chronic catarrhs, and chlorosis. The Rockbridge water has every ingredient in it that the most careful analysis has discovered in the Viche water. It contains less carbonic acid than the Viche water, but is richer in everything else. It could easily be charged with more carbonic acid, artificially, if that were desirable. The Viche water is highly recommended for engorgements of the liver and spleen, biliary concretions, diseases of the kidney, fluor albus, and chronic disfigurements of the skin, caused by diseased viscera.

The Springs of Spa, in Ouertha, so celebrated throughout Europe for chronic nephritis, calculous affections, leucorrhœa, visceral catarrhs and debility of the digestive organs, contain no other substances than those found by analysis in the water of the Rockbridge Springs, and might with as much propriety be called *Alum Spring*, as they hold in solution a considerable quantity of alum.

The waters of Passy, so useful in languor of the digestive system, and in the cure of scorbutic affections, visceral engorgements, passive hemorrhages, as menorrhagia, piles, &c., hold in solution the sulphate of lime, sulphate of magnesia, alumina, chloride of sodium, and the peroxide of iron, all of which are found in much larger proportions (fully three times as much) in the Rockbridge Springs,—the latter Springs containing the iron in the form of a *protoxide*, a much milder and safer salt than the *peroxide* of the Passy water.

In truth, I know of no water in Europe or America so rich in medical substances as that of the Rockbridge Springs. My atten-



tion was first attracted to it some fifteen years ago, by observing that the sojourners at the Rockbridge Springs were generally composed of invalids from Virginia, while those at the other Springs were mostly from distant parts of the Union, more in search of pleasure than health. Most of these other Springs in the Virginia mountains have a deservedly high reputation for the efficacy of their water in a variety of chronic ailments; but I am satisfied that the Rockbridge Springs have not yet attained that wide celebrity they deserve, from the circumstance of their being regarded as merely *Alum Springs*, instead of being seen in their true light as the richest of all that class of Mineral Springs known as the *acidulous ferruginous*,—a class of mineral waters to which the most famous Springs of the world belong.

Respectfully, your obed't serv't,  
SAM'L A. CARTWRIGHT.

TO WM. FRAZIER, Esq.,  
Alum Springs, Rockbridge County, Va.

*From DR. CABELL, Professor in the Medical Department of University of Virginia.*

*February 5, 1867.*

WILLIAM FRAZIER, Esq.—My Dear Sir: It gives me pleasure to comply with your request that I would bear testimony to the medicinal virtues of the Rockbridge Alum Water.

My observations, made during a sojourn at the Springs of several weeks at a time, on two successive summers, led me to the conclusion that the popular estimate of the efficacy of the Alum Water in the treatment of many chronic diseases is not an exaggerated one. It is, indeed, admitted that a more or less considerable proportion of cases of inveterate chronic diseases, for which relief is sought by the use of that water, derive no permanent benefits from it, but it is undeniable that an unusually large proportion of grave and obstinate cases which baffle the ordinary resources of the healing art, are annually cured at your Springs. These cases, so far as they have fallen under my immediate observation, may be classed under the following heads:

1. Occasional attacks of Indigestion, attended with violent gastralgia, the water being taken in the intervals of the attacks.
2. Confirmed Dyspepsia in nearly all its varieties, except such as are attended with symptoms of acute gastric irritation.
3. Chronic Diarrhœa.
4. Leucorrhœa.
5. Scrofulous Ulcers, and other Scrofulous Affections of the Skin and of the Lymphatic Glands.
6. Chronic Eczema.

So potent an agent requires, of course, some caution in its administration to persons suffering with unequivocal symptoms of disease. All such persons should use this, as they use, or ought to use, other powerful remedies, under the advice and supervision of a competent physician.

Very respectfully and truly yours, .  
J. L. CABELL,

And in another letter Prof. CABELL writes as follows:

"Let it suffice to say that though there are innumerable 'Alum Springs' in the State, none of them have been able to compete with the latter in its hold on the popular confidence. Its extraordinary efficacy in the cure of chronic cutaneous affections, and especially of scrofulous tumefactions and ulcers, suggests the presence and operation of an agent not expressed by its name, which name is due to the predominant taste of a ferruginous alum, with a notable excess of sulphuric acid.

"It has achieved wonders in the cure of *Chronic Diarrhœa*, not so much, as I have been led to believe from some observations, by its astringency, as indirectly by its influence on the digestive function. Indeed, I believe it to be a very powerful agent, susceptible of various useful applications in the treatment of many diseases of a chronic nature."

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From DR. T. GAILLARD THOMAS, *Professor Obstetrics, College Physicians and Surgeons, New York.*

86 FIFTH AVENUE, N. Y., March 12, 1867.

WILLIAM FRAZIER—Dear Sir: In reply to your inquiry as to the estimate in which I hold the water of the "Rockbridge Alum Springs," of Virginia, I would state that I regard it as one of the most efficient astringent and tonic mineral waters which I have ever employed. Its use in *Dyspepsia* and *Chronic Diarrhœa* and *Dysentery* often proves of very great value, and in these affections I am in the daily practice of employing it. Respectfully yours,

T. G. THOMAS, M. D.

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From DR. EMMET, of New York City.

ROCKBRIDGE ALUM SPRINGS, VA.

WILLIAM FRAZIER—Dear Sir: In answer to your request, I cheerfully bear testimony to the great efficacy of the Alum Water of your Springs as an adjuvant in the treatment of diseases peculiar to woman. It is a most valuable tonic, and in the treatment of a large class of cases suffering from discharges resulting from a want of tone, together with general derangement of the digestive system, I know of no Mineral Water so efficacious. It is so readily assimilated that I have never known its use to disagree with or derange the stomach. Frequently where tonics and the preparations of iron are most indicated they are badly borne. In such cases I have always found that by a judicious use of these Waters at first, the system could be brought up to a point of toleration.

I have used both the water and the dried preparation, or salts, in private practice and in the Woman's Hospital, for several years to my great satisfaction.

So valuable do I consider the agent in the class of cases in which I have chiefly employed it, that I wish you every success in your efforts to bring it into more general use.

Yours respectfully,

THOMAS ADDIS EMMET,

73 Madison Av., N. Y.



*Extracts from a Letter of REV. JAMES W. ALEXANDER, D. D., of New York, published in the New York Observer, July, 1855.*

THE ALUM SPRINGS OF VIRGINIA.—Much as has been said about the mineral and fontal wealth of Virginia, the readers of the *Observer* may still receive some new information concerning the Springs named above. As being among the latest resorts in these extraordinary mountains, they have been less frequently described than some others. My observation will apply principally to the Rockbridge Spring, as it is this only at which I have remained any considerable time. And my reason for asking a place in your columns at all, is my belief that these waters are eminently fitted to relieve thousands of sufferers, whose case is seldom reached by artificial medicines.

The Rockbridge Alum Spring is in the same county with the famous Natural Bridge, but in the northern part, on the high-road between Lexington and the celebrated Warm Springs; being about twenty miles from the latter. Though alum exists in large measure, and gives the predominant taste to the water, the medicinal qualities of the Spring are by no means due to this agent alone. There are also present free sulphuric acid, protoxide of iron, and the sulphates of potash, lime and magnesia. But neither this statement, nor the elaborate analyses of Professors Rogers and Hayes, in any degree account for the manifest effects of the water. Indeed, it is well known that agents which are inert or hurtful in the hands of the pharmacist, possess a great power as proceeding from nature's laboratory. The same nominal combinations result in widely different things: thus (to borrow an example) the union of nitrogen and oxygen makes, in one proportion, the air we breathe; in another, nitrous oxide; and in a third, nitric acid. It is only on empirical grounds, therefore, that we judge mineral springs to have such and such effects. In the case of the Alum Springs these effects are as strong and potent as in any yet reported, and the benefit has been derived by classes of sufferers who have had least advantage from the faculty.

Many years ago it was known by hunters that an alum spring broke out of these cliffs. Long before any houses were erected, people who had ulcers, tetters, salt rheum, scrofula and other skin affections, used to come here and encamp. The next step was to rear log cabins; and now, at length, for several years, it has been a place of general resort.

A dish-like vale, or basin, in the midst of hard but picturesque ridges, contains these fountains, which issue from five chambers hewn in the rock, at the base of a cliff of slate, so bared as to expose the sloping strata for many square feet below, while it is surmounted by a crest of green forest. A spacious area of green, within a circular drive, is begirt by a number of brick cottages, here called cabins; but there are other houses of greater extent. The verdure is rich, and the views of the North Mountain and the western wall of the Great Valley, and of some lesser ridges, are pleasing. It is one of the singular advantages of these Virginian watering-places, that, by walking for three minutes, you can plunge yourself at once into glens and tangled wilds. The amphitheatre around a chalybeate spring, for instance, is thronged with fine

trees and enriched with a luxuriant flora. The rhododendron is, indeed, no longer in bloom, but the scarlet woodlily, the fragrant *pyrala maculata*, the *Mitchella repens*, embroidering whole banks, and a variegated collection of yellow, red and orange fungi and lichens, reward the easy pursuit. A rattlesnake, lately captured, is exhibited in a barrel; there is a rumor of a bear having paced across the lawn; and the venison of every meal testifies that we are in a wild country.

The alum waters (for the springs vary in character) are found useful in a number of diseases. The statement of Dr. Christian, of Richmond, is published as follows:—

"They are an invaluable remedy in the cure of all scrofulous and cutaneous diseases, lupus and other malignant ulcerations of the mouth and throat, chronic diseases of the digestive organs, dyspepsia, diseases of the liver, chronic diarrhoea, scrofulous affections of the mesentery and peritoneum, diseases of the urinary organs, diabetes, chronic inflammation and irritation of the kidneys, bladder and urethra, diseases peculiar to females, amenorrhoea, dysmenorrhoea, leucorrhoea, menorrhagia, chronic inflammation and ulceration of the uterus, hemorrhoids, all hemorrhagic affections of a passive character, and all senile conditions of the system and broken-down states of the constitution, whether resulting from the immoderate use of medicine, or the errors of youth. In all diseases of the glandular system, whether of inflammation, induration, or deficient secretion, it has no superior, if an equal as a curative agent; restoring the secretions generally to a healthy condition, particularly those of the liver, skin and kidneys, whether deficient, excessive or of bad quality. Its purgative action is characterized by copious bilious discharges, very similar to those produced by mercurials.

"As a remedy in all depraved conditions of the constitution, involving, as their diseases necessarily do, an unhealthy condition of the blood, we know of no agent that has performed such astonishing cures; thus it is that it has cured scrofula in all its stages and worst forms, with its kindred affections. Acting as a purgative or astringent, according to the quantity taken, it cures with equal facility diseases of the alimentary canal, whether attended with constipation or diarrhoea. Unlike most other mineral waters, it retains its curative properties at all seasons of the year, and when sent away in bottles, possesses most, if not all, its medicinal virtues."

One or two surprising cases were pointed out to us at the spot. A lady has been in the same building with us, who, though much disfigured, is a marvel in respect to recovery. Scrofulous ulceration had so eaten into her system as to destroy half the upper jaw-bone, several of the small bones, and the entire nose. Beginning in 1847, she had visited the Alum Springs for eight years, and is perfectly cured. Dr. Mibane, of North Carolina, testifies that he has been in like manner freed from a cancerous or canceroid sore on the nose, which had baffled all medical and surgical treatment. Startling instances of the cure of dyspepsia and chronic diarrhoea are occurring every year. These waters are not a *nostrum*; everybody sees and knows all about them. They are not a *quack medicine*; the regular faculty exhibit them under due guards and cautions. We have felt it to be a duty to increase, so far as we could, the public knowledge of these fountains.



*Editorial Extract from the Alabama Beacon, embodying a letter from  
DR. GRAHAM.*

ROCKBRIDGE ALUM SPRINGS.—The attention of our readers is particularly invited to an advertisement of this very popular watering-place, which will be found in to-day's *Beacon*. Having spent a few weeks, last summer, at these Springs, we can confidently recommend them, not only on account of the medicinal virtues of the waters, but for their favorable location and the manner in which they are kept. Of all the watering-places in Virginia, we doubt if there is one (the White Sulphur Springs, possibly, excepted) that is annually visited by a larger number of invalids; and a very large proportion of them Virginians, who may fairly be presumed to give them a preference because of the medicinal virtues of the water.

That our readers, and especially those who are contemplating a trip this summer to some of the Virginia watering-places, may know for what diseases these waters are considered efficacious, we give below some interesting facts, furnished us by DR. GRAHAM, the resident physician, and which we incorporated into one of the letters we wrote from the Rockbridge Alum, last summer. Dr. G., as we remark, has, as he informed us, visited these Springs professionally every summer, except two, since the year 1830, when they first began to attract attention:—

"The Rockbridge Alum Springs began to attract attention about the year 1830; persons from the adjacent country were in the habit of visiting them and camping out, sleeping for weeks in their wagons and rude huts, that they might avail themselves of the virtue of these waters in the cure of eruptive and cutaneous diseases. They were found very efficacious in the cure of obstinate and indolent ulcers: amongst them many of a scrofulous character were entirely relieved.

"In consequence of these successful cures, the reputation of the waters gradually spread, and persons laboring under other diseases were induced to give them a trial. The result has been that the Rockbridge Alum Springs have been found to possess more remedial virtue, curing more obstinate and inveterate cases, than the waters of any known Mineral Springs.

"As a cure for Scrofula or King's Evil in its various stages, their reputation is now established; whether appearing in small, flat pustules about the mouth and ears of children—in ophthalmic inflammation—in enlargement and ulceration of the glands and neck,—the result has been the same. Many cases of that obstinate and heretofore incurable species called Lupus have been thoroughly and radically cured.

"Dyspepsia, in its various stages, with all its train of horrible nervous symptoms, has been in innumerable instances relieved, and many cases effectually and permanently cured.

"Chronic diarrhoea, after exhausting the best medical skill, has been compelled to yield to the curative powers of these waters.

"In no class of diseases have their powers been more signally manifested than in those peculiar to the female constitution. In hemorrhages, whether from the lungs or otherwise, these waters have given immediate and permanent relief. Their immediate and direct operation is that of a stimulating diuretic and cathartic.

When used for a considerable length of time, their alterative effect is very apparent. Cases of great debility and prostration of the system, from whatever cause originating, will find the tonic properties of these waters refreshing and restorative.

"The reputation of these Springs is daily increasing, every year adding to the list of remarkable cures they have effected. The visitors who frequent them outnumber those of any other Mineral Spring in the State, only excepting the White Sulphur."

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*Letter from REV. DR. HALL, of Trenton, N. J., published in August, 1855.*

#### ROCKBRIDGE ALUM SPRINGS.

Location—Ingredients of the waters—Their great virtues—Disadvantage of a misnomer—Mountain seclusion—Religious services.

ALUM SPRINGS, ROCKBRIDGE CO., VA., }  
August 8, 1855. }

Messrs. Editors.—I am not about to furnish you a letter on "the Virginia Springs," but wish to introduce to your Northern readers a comparatively recent addition to that wonderful group of medicinal reservoirs.

The more celebrated springs of this State lie in the counties of Greenbrier, Monroe and Bath. That from which I write is in the central county of Rockbridge, so named from the great natural arch which, at the height of two hundred and fifteen feet, and with a length of ninety-three feet, spans Cedar Creek. We are forty miles southwest from Staunton, and seventeen northwest from Lexington. As for the distance it will give the best standard to say that you may breakfast at the city of Washington or Alexandria and lodge here.

This Spring suffers disadvantage from the imperfect designation given in its name. The predominant taste is of alum, which is the largest ingredient of the mixture; but with it are combined iron, lime, magnesia, sodium, soda, ammonia and potash, and the chief solvents are sulphuric and carbonic acids. It seems to be admitted by chemical and medical men that the best analysis may have failed to detect some of its most potent constituents. Certain it is that the use of the water produces greater and more various results upon the human system, diseased or healthy, than can be accounted for from any analogy in the ordinary exhibition of the same materials.

To the intelligence of the plain observer, the arrangement describes itself as a mass of some of the most efficacious substances which the laboratory of a kind Providence has prepared for the relief of human ailments, heaped together in this spot, and their combined virtues soaked out of them by the springs of the mountain and the rain of the clouds.

I have seen a letter written, within a few days, by Dr. Cartwright, an eminent physician of New Orleans, who, after a season here, and a tour of years among the most celebrated "Spas" and "Brunner" and "Wells" of Europe, pronounces this water worthy of a place among the most extraordinary of its class. He gives to the combination the description of "acidulous ferruginous," and remarks that



it would be as unscientific and improper to call the celebrated Tunbridge Spring "table salt" as to call this by the single term "alum." This leads me to suggest, that if a more correct or attractive or fashionable name should be devised as a substitute for the one now objected to, we might adopt the Tunbridge title for our Rockbridge, and call it "Rockbridge Wells." the name would not be as inapplicable here as to most springs, for the water is not seen to drip, or flow, or bubble, but is discovered in five distinct rocky basins, below the surface of the ground, at the base of that high cliff of slaty stone where it is so curiously made in secret, and in recesses so dark that it may literally be said that no one can see the depth, though in reality it is shallow.

The diseases for which the Rockbridge Spring is resorted to are all the scrofulous and cutaneous varieties, chronic dyspepsia, diseases of the glandular system, disordered state of the secretions in general. It has cured bad cases of bronchitis and sore throat, and its tonic and alterative properties have sent away many "walking, and leaping, and praising God," who came in the most desponding condition of debility.

At this date we have about 350 boarders. Families are comfortably accommodated in the admirable Virginian plan of separate brick cottages, surrounding a lawn of several acres. The North and Mill Mountains skirt the plain in which this retreat lies hidden, and seem to overhang it with their unbroken forests of oak and pine. No town, village or hamlet is within reach of walk or drive, unless we except the furnace of the Messrs. Jordan, where the iron-ore of the adjacent mountain is smelted. The seclusion is as entire and romantic as can be desired by any one who would enjoy for a few weeks, while it may still be found, what was once understood as "the country." The railway is, indeed, creeping onward. It now actually climbs the great mountain ridge, the locomotive dragging up its train through the stupendous passage of Rockfish Gap; but it will keep at a distance of five miles from this nest in the wilderness.

Out of reach of church and pastor as we are, we have not been without the privilege of public worship; and pleasant it is to unite in these quiet and sublime scenes with our countrymen from every quarter and with Christians of every name, under the softening influences of a common faith and common afflictions, in the holy observances of the Lord's own day.

The following valuable letter is from DR. MOORMAN, long a resident physician at the White Sulphur Springs, and author of the well-known work on the Mineral Springs of Virginia.

OAKWOOD, *March 24, 1857.*

My Dear Sir.—I have received the pamphlet you were so kind as to send me. I thank you for the opportunity of examining it. It contains much valuable matter in elucidation of the peculiar efficacy of the Rockbridge Alum Waters in various obstinate diseases, and of which I shall avail myself in my forthcoming volume. Not that such information has afforded me, *personally*, any new light as to the efficacy of that water in the cases given. I had fully appreciated it

in all such cases before, and have long spoken of the spring as holding a deservedly high rank among the mineral waters of the world. But, as affording concurrent testimony, the pamphlet is valuable to me as an author.

If not too late for your new edition, I would, as a friend, advise you to insert Dr. McPheeters' letter to me, which you will find at page 226 of my second edition. It is from a gentleman of very high and, in our Southern country, of widely extended reputation. It is the best synopsis in brief that has been given of the therapeutic action of those waters, and to intelligent persons generally, and especially to physicians, will form a valuable illustration and exposition of their peculiar nature and efficacy.

It is a matter of no little importance that the public should be fully apprised of the remarkable influence exerted by the Rockbridge Alum Waters in strumous diseases especially. They have long stood as a reproach to our profession, and never but in these waters has a remedy been found that deserves the name of *specific* for their cure.

If the opinion I have expressed in my volume on this subject can in your judgment, be in anywise useful in increasing or confirming the public confidence in the value and efficacy of the water as a healing agent, it is, of course, very much at your service.

I commenced to write but a line of thanks for your pamphlet, and have spun out a letter

Very respectfully, your ob't serv't,

J. J. MOORMAN.

To WM. FRAZIER, Esq.

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*Extracts from DR. MOORMAN'S new work on the Virginia Springs.*

"These waters certainly possess unequivocal curative powers, and although their reputation is now high, they are destined to advance still further in public confidence. Experience has fully shown that they are very efficaciously used in many diseases of the skin and glandular system, and that in *scrofulous* affections they offer new hopes to the afflicted.

"Chemically considered, it is an *aluminous sulphated chalybeate*, containing, as will be seen from its analysis, many of the best materials that are found in the most valued mineral waters in Europe or this country. The protoxide of iron, sodium, potash, lime, magnesia, and ammonia together with sulphuric, carbonic, crenic, chloric and silicic acids, exist in the water in common with alum. Some of these ingredients are found in the most distinguished of the English and German waters, particularly in those of Tunbridge, Harrogate, Leamington, and Aix-la-Chapelle, as well as in the waters of the famous Spa, in Oarthe, in those of Lassy and in the celebrated Springs of Bagneres, in Garonne, all of which have acquired a world-wide celebrity for the cure of many diseases for which the Rockbridge Alum has been successfully prescribed.

"These waters have been rapidly increasing in the public favor and confidence since they first became a resort for valudinarians. They possess rare but well-established medicinal virtues, and as their therapeutical applicability shall be more closely and distinctly defined, they must still further advance in popular and professional confidence.



"The immediate effects of these waters, under their full and kindly influences upon the system, are those of a febrifuge tonic; resembling the action of some of our best vegetable medicines of that class; but superior to them from a specific tendency to the bowels and kidneys.

"By their diffusible astringent and tonic powers, they resolve the congestions of engorged viscera, and remove subacute inflammations, thus releasing and giving activity to the fluids; they fill up the superficial capillaries and veins, and give a full, slow pulse, with a warm surface and soft skin.

"They purge mildly, perhaps, two-thirds of the persons that use them freely. Their action upon the *kidneys* is generally prompt, sure and sometimes active. Their action upon the *skin* is secondary, and is the result of their sanative actions upon the blood-vessels and internal organs, by resolving inflammation and congestion, and hence is always to be regarded as a favorable indication in the case.

"Experience has fully shown that these waters are very efficaciously prescribed in many diseases of the skin and glandular system; *lupus* and other malignant ulcerations of the mouth and throat have been cured by them.

"In various chronic affections of the digestive organs, either simple or implicating the liver, they are advantageously used.

"They are very valuable in *mesenteric* affections, particularly in persons, old or young, of scorbutic tendencies

"In *chronic diarrhœa*, they display speedy and happy effects.

"Being prompt and active as a diuretic, when judiciously used, they are found very beneficial in *chronic irritations* and *debility* of the *kidney*, *bladder* and *urethra*.

"To several of the affections commonly known as *female diseases*, they are very happily adapted. In *leucorrhœa*, as would readily be inferred from their composition, they are an admirable remedy, often curing that disease, although it has been a complaint of long standing. In *menorrhagia*, unattended with plethora of the blood-vessels, and with the system in a condition to bear tonics, they may be prescribed with great confidence. In *amenorrhœa* and *dysmenorrhœa*, where a phlegmose state of the system does not contraindicate the use of mineral tonics, they may be used to eminent advantage. In the *chlorotic* condition of the female system generally, and especially when the tendency is great to *paucity* or *poverty* of *blood*, the waters will be used to much advantage.

"In *anemic* conditions generally, and in cases of debility and loss of tone in the nervous system, they may be administered with much confidence.

"*Bronchitis* when in connection with a strumous diathesis, may be treated by these waters to great advantage; in such cases it will be found to be one of our best remedies.

"In *Gastralgia*, or nervous dyspepsia, they often act most kindly and effectively, by changing the action of the mucous membrane and relieving it of its subacute irritation.

"They actively promote the appetite, and invigorate the digestive powers.

"But it is especially in *Scrophula* that these waters have won their highest honors and established a reputation, not only among the best mineral waters of this country, but of the world. Their happy combination of tonic, alterative, diuretic and aperient qualities ren-

der them an efficient remedy in many of the ills of humanity; but especially in the various forms of *strumous* disease, and even their worst forms, they merit confidence and deserve praise. In this formidable class of affections, whether exhibiting itself in the hardened and enlarged glands, and in ulcerations in children, in ophthalmic inflammations, in mesenteric indurations, or in its more intense and pervading development of adult life, they have been extensively used, and generally with great benefit to the sufferers.

"Scrofula or King's Evil, has heretofore, to a large extent, stood as a reproach to the healing art; for although occasional remedies have claimed reputation for its cure, and often not without solid merit, it may well be doubted whether any has yet come into popular use that is more generally successful than the Rockbridge Alum waters, when properly administered. This opinion of their high merit in such cases, is not the result of slight observations, or of their fortunate effects in one or two remarkable cases; on the contrary, it is the result of the knowledge of their employment for many years, in cases of various degrees of intensity, and in patients of dissimilar ages and constitutions. The suffering of thousands, in whom the germ of scrofula is implanted (or who are laboring under its developed evils, and who are not likely, as I believe, to obtain a more efficient remedy than is afforded by these waters), will be esteemed a sufficient justification for the earnestness with which I indicate my confidence of their use in such cases. But let me not be misunderstood as intending to convey the impression that they will cure every case of this disease, whatever may be its seat, character or combination; both my judgment and experience fall short of this conclusion; but they both concur in regarding the remedy as among the best, if not the very best, now known for scrofula, and one that is calculated to brighten the hopes of those who may be the subjects of this formidable malady.

"The Rockbridge Alum, as therapeutic water, is not a negative agent; its effects upon the system are positive, direct and palpable. It is in a high sense of the term a *medicinal water*, capable, when properly directed and applied, of doing great good in a wide circle of cases, or, when injudiciously used, of disappointing hopes and producing injury. It does not belong to that anomalous class of agents of which it is often said 'they will do no harm, if they do no good.' Such being the potent character of these waters, the importance that cases, which are to be submitted to their use, should be carefully discriminated, and that the water should be employed under the direction of judgment and experience, must be apparent to all. It is a fortunate circumstance for the invalid public, as well as for the solid reputation of the Springs, that several medical gentlemen of intelligence and acquirements are in the habit of making their residence there during the watering-seasons, whose experience has made them familiar with the powers and applicabilities of the water, and who are therefore qualified to direct the invalid in its proper use.


"The residuary salts of the water obtained by evaporation are also a subject of transportation, and are frequently used in substitution where the water cannot be procured. A piece of this residuum or mass, of the size of a common pea, dissolved in a half-pint of common water, will make it of about the strength of the water at the spring. This mass, administered in the dose of from three to



four grains, in aromatic syrup of rhubarb, and repeated thrice daily, has proved a valuable remedy in obstinate bowel-complaints of children, produced from teething, when unattended with fever. In adult practice, it is sometimes beneficially used in the dose of from five to fifteen grains, to strengthen and promote digestion.

"The proprietors of this watering-place have adopted the plan of keeping open their establishment for the use of invalids during the *spring* and *fall* months, as well as during the summer.

"This is an excellent arrangement, inasmuch as it affords to invalids the opportunity of using the waters fresh at the spring unannoyed by the summer crowd. The strength of the water, and its medicinal action upon the system, will be found to be essentially the same during the spring, summer and fall."

 **CATION.**—The proprietors respectfully warn visitors against a very prevalent error,—that of drinking copiously of the water immediately on their arrival, when the system is probably more or less deranged by the fatigues of travel. It is a safe rule under all circumstances to commence the use of the water in *small quantities*. It might be still safer for invalids to consult the resident physician, who is thoroughly acquainted with the use of the water.

One thing more. Pray don't expect a miracle to be wrought for you, and, if it is not wrought, thereupon pack up bag and baggage and leave at once. Which is all one as to say, do not expect an inveterate chronic disease to be expelled from your system in a few days, and perfect health (to which you have long been a stranger) to return to you in a night. If, upon due advisement and consideration, you have determined to try these waters, why, *try them*; give them a *fair trial*, and peradventure they may heal your malady and restore long-lost health. We do not *know* that they will do so in any given case, and, of course, cannot guarantee that they will in yours. But this we do know, and have repeatedly witnessed, instances of persons who, though at first (for some days and even weeks) greatly discouraged, yet, either blessed with patience and fortitude, or urged by some kind friend, have persisted in the use of the water and been finally restored to health. One case, out of many such, occurs to the writer, as falling under his observation last summer; that of a most estimable gentleman from a Southern State, who, having suffered for years under chronic diarrhœa, and subsisted, for eighteen months or more, almost wholly, perhaps exclusively, on a little tea and crackers, having traveled many hundred miles to reach these Springs, was on the point of leaving them on the third or fourth day after his arrival, simply because he had not been made the subject of a miracle. A casual acquaintance of an adjoining room, an elderly lady who had long known the water

and rightly appreciated its virtues, with great difficulty constrained him to stay longer and give the water a fair trial. In less than a month from that time the gentleman found health and strength, and was vigorously attacking plum-cake and ice-creams, and committing other like indiscretions of renovated youth.

Therefore persevere at least *half* as long, and *half* as patiently as you would, and as thousands actually do, in the use of nostrums and quack medicines, and all the vile compounds which, by systematic puffing, make so many fortunes and ruin so many constitutions.



# ROCKBRIDGE ALUM SPRINGS.

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BY PROF. M. B. HARDIN.

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This celebrated watering-place is situated in Rockbridge County, Va., about seventeen miles northwest of Lexington, in a narrow valley, between Mill and North Mountains. The Springs, four in number, are basins picked out at the base of the ledge of shales lying at the foot of Mill Mountain. These shales are charged with a large quantity of finely divided pyrites. This mineral is decomposed by the action of the atmosphere, protosulphate of iron and free sulphuric acid being formed. The sulphuric acid attacks the shales, uniting with the alumina and other bases they contain, producing corresponding sulphates. These salts are dissolved by the water which penetrates the fissures and interstices of the rocks, and the mineral water thus formed collects in the basins made for its reception. The composition of the water is necessarily variable. During a dry season, for example, the salts formed by the decompositions occurring in the exposed parts of the shales accumulate in the strata, the protosulphate of iron being at the same time converted, to a great extent, into a basic persulphate. Subsequent rains wash down these salts through the crevices of the shales into the springs, which become rapidly filled with water much more highly mineralized, especially with sulphate of alumina, than that furnished by the gradual percolations during dry weather. Not only, however, does the water of each spring thus vary with the season. Ordinarily, No. 1 is the weakest, No. 4 the strongest, Nos. 2 and 3 being intermediate in strength; but it appears that these relations are occasionally more or less disturbed. An instance of this kind was noticed last summer by the resident physician, Dr. Davis, of the University of Virginia, who states that at one time the water of No. 2 became much more astringent to the taste than No. 4. The efficacy of the "Alum water" in the cure of many chronic diseases, amongst which may be mentioned diarrhœa, certain forms of dyspepsia, and especially scrofulous ulcers, had suggested the presence of some active ingredient in addition to the sulphates of alumina, iron, magnesia, and the free sulphuric acid which the water was known to contain. In order to determine the facts of the case, the proprietor of the Springs was requested to send to this laboratory a sample of the "alum mass"—salts prepared at the springs by the evaporation of the water in iron vessels. The sample was received May 27, 1872, and upon analysis yielded the following results:

## Analysis of the "Alum Mass."

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| Water.....                                  | 39.990 |
| Copper Sulphate.....                        | trace  |
| Iron Protosulphate.....                     | 35.745 |
| Iron Persulphate (basic).....               | 1.997  |
| Manganese Sulphate.....                     | 0.603  |
| Nickel.....                                 | 0.056  |
| Cobalt.....                                 | 0.037  |
| Zinc.....                                   | 0.024  |
| Aluminium.....                              | 9.490  |
| Calcium.....                                | 1.112  |
| Magnesium.....                              | 2.310  |
| Potassium.....                              | 0.804  |
| Sodium.....                                 | 0.891  |
| Lithium.....                                | 0.005  |
| Ammonium.....                               | trace  |
| Calcium Phosphate.....                      | 0.124  |
| Nitric Acid.....                            | trace  |
| Hydrochloric Acid.....                      | trace  |
| Organic Matter.....                         | trace  |
| Insoluble { Silica.....4.33                 | 6.529  |
| Alumina and a little Oxide of Iron.....1.66 |        |
| Organic Matter.....0.43                     |        |
| Total.....                                  | 90.797 |

There was next obtained, June 13, 1872, a sample of the water from spring No. 4. It was analyzed with the following results:

## Analysis of Spring No. 4.

Grains of Anhydrous Constituents in One Gallon of 231 Cubic Inches.

|                                |          |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| Copper Sulphate.....           | 0.00161  |
| Iron Protosulphate.....        | 0.87962  |
| Iron Persulphate.....          | traces   |
| Manganese Sulphate.....        | 0.51527  |
| Nickel.....                    | 0.05433  |
| Cobalt.....                    | 0.03835  |
| Zinc.....                      | 0.05225  |
| Aluminium.....                 | 18.99905 |
| Calcium.....                   | 0.35228  |
| Magnesium.....                 | 1.50165  |
| Potassium.....                 | 0.06778  |
| Sodium.....                    | 0.00876  |
| Lithium.....                   | 0.01790  |
| Free Sulphuric Acid.....       | 2.53866  |
| Silicic Acid.....              | 1.92591  |
| Sodium Chloride.....           | 0.14246  |
| Calcium Phosphate.....         | traces   |
| Calcium Fluoride.....          | traces   |
| Ammonium Nitrate.....          | traces   |
| Organic Matter.....            | traces   |
| Total.....                     | 27.09088 |
| Specific Gravity at 60° F..... | 1.00040  |

The Gases were not estimated

Desirous of comparing the composition of the water collected just after a rain with that of a sample procured during the dry weather of June, further examinations were postponed until October 25, 1872, when a capital opportunity was afforded. The whole summer and early autumn was unusually dry, and from October 7th to October 23d there had been little or no rain. On the 23d it commenced raining, and continued to do so for nearly three days. On the 25th the water was collected, and on the 28th received at this laboratory, the samples for the main analysis in well corked demi-johns and bottles, those for the estimation of the gases in flasks sent to the spring for the purpose. The samples were collected and the temperature of the springs determined by the proprietor. The water for the principal analysis, which was somewhat turbid from the recent rains, was allowed to stand until the suspended particles had settled, and the perfectly clear liquid was then drawn off from the sediment, which was also reserved for analysis. The following results were obtained:

### Analysis of Springs Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4.

GRAINS OF ANHYDROUS CONSTITUENTS IN ONE GALLON OF 231 CUBIC INCHES.

|                          | No. 1.       | No. 2.   | No. 3.       | No. 4.   |
|--------------------------|--------------|----------|--------------|----------|
| Arsenic.....             | faint trace. | trace.   | faint trace. | trace.   |
| Antimony.....            | faint trace. | trace.   | trace.       | trace.   |
| Lead Sulphate.....       | trace.       | trace.   | trace.       | trace.   |
| Copper.....              | 0.04024      | 0.04024  | 0.09287      | 0.10370  |
| Iron Persulphate.....    | 1.01850      | 1.94443  | 1.75922      | 2.90123  |
| Manganese Sulphate.....  | 0.85955      | 0.99177  | 0.52511      | 1.37352  |
| Nickel.....              | 0.16298      | 0.14062  | 0.23969      | 0.22871  |
| Cobalt.....              | 0.03547      | 0.0432   | 0.08082      | 0.08124  |
| Zinc.....                | 0.11951      | 0.38906  | 0.20525      | 0.21748  |
| Aluminium.....           | 31.20652     | 42.60847 | 43.95506     | 72.37335 |
| Calcium.....             | 1.73110      | 3.22302  | 2.63598      | 2.31527  |
| Magnesium.....           | 0.88761      | 5.60586  | 6.37371      | 7.36110  |
| Potassium.....           | 0.17248      | 0.41299  | 0.38351      | 0.17586  |
| Sodium.....              | 0.02434      | 0.02743  | 0.02130      | 0.03463  |
| Lithium.....             | 0.01852      | 0.02006  | 0.02006      | 0.03241  |
| Free Sulphuric Acid..... | 3.23904      | 3.82512  | 2.04041      | 3.08633  |
| Silicic Acid.....        | 3.54627      | 3.89750  | 3.12807      | 4.38346  |
| Sodium Chloride.....     | 0.07547      | 0.10565  | 0.10565      | 0.14216  |
| Calcium Phosphate.....   | 0.01725      | 0.17251  | 0.20671      | 0.05174  |
| Calcium Fluoride.....    | trace.       | trace.   | trace.       | trace.   |
| Ammonium Nitrate.....    | trace.       | trace.   | trace.       | trace.   |
| Organic Matter.....      | trace.       | trace.   | trace.       | trace.   |
| Total.....               | 43.19185     | 62.35936 | 61.77442     | 94.83748 |

CUBIC INCHES OF THE GASES IN A GALLON OF WATER.

|                               | No. 1.  | No. 2.   | No. 3.   | No. 4.   |
|-------------------------------|---------|----------|----------|----------|
| Carbon Dioxide.....           | 12.37   | 10.89    | 11.95    | 12.72    |
| Oxygen.....                   | 1.53    | 1.49     | 1.65     | 1.64     |
| Nitrogen.....                 | 4.19    | 3.98     | 4.10     | 4.13     |
| Total.....                    | 18.09   | 16.36    | 17.70    | 18.48    |
| Temperature.....              | 56° F.  | 54.5° F. | 54.5° F. | 54.5° F. |
| Specific Gravity at 60° F.... | 1.00084 | 1.00119  | 1.00118  | 1.00174  |



The sediment from the water was found to contain a basic persulphate of iron, silicate of allumina, a little organic matter, and traces of lead sulphate, antimony and arsenic.

The last three substances were not detected in the specimen of the "mass" nor in the sample of No. 4 sent to this laboratory in June, 1872, the first indications of them being recognized in the analysis of the water obtained in October, 1872, but even then the deposits and precipitates were so slight that it was considered necessary to confirm the presence of these bodies by operating upon a larger quantity of the water, making at the same time a parallel series of experiments to test the purity of the re-agents and vessels employed in the analysis. This was done at the first opportunity which presented itself, and the occurrence of these bodies, as well as those reported to the proprietor of the Springs in April, 1873, has been established beyond all doubt by the analysis of a sample of water collected by the writer himself on the 3d of September last. That arsenic, antimony and lead were not detected in the water examined in June, 1872, is in all probability to be accounted for by their existence at that time in proportions too minute to reveal themselves to the analysis of the three or four gallons of water operated upon.

It is hardly necessary to remark that the differences observed between the analyses of the "mass" and of the water itself are to be accounted for to a great extent by the fact that the "mass" was obtained by the evaporation of the water in iron vessels, the liquor being transferred from pan to pan as it advanced in concentration. It is highly probable, however, that at the time these salts were prepared, February or March, 1872, the water contained, proportionately, more protosulphate of iron and free sulphuric acid and less sulphate of alumina than the samples brought to this laboratory for analysis, which were collected in the summer and autumn of the same year. It will be observed, on examining the comparative analyses of the samples of Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4, that while the waters all contained the same ingredients and possessed in the main the same general character, yet the individual constituents did not occur in such proportions throughout the series as to indicate that regular gradation which would be characteristic of the same mineral water in different states of dilution. The most conspicuous deviations from a progression are to be noticed in the small quantity of magnesia in No. 1, and of manganese in No. 2. The variations in composition to which these remarkable waters are liable constitute an interesting subject for future investigation, and furnish an additional reason for the propriety of using so powerful an agent only under the direction of an intelligent and observant physician.

VIRGINIA MILITARY INSTITUTE,

LEXINGTON, VA., November 29, 1873.

## CHALYBEATE SPRING.

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This Spring is situated on the property known as the "Rock-bridge Alum Springs," about three hundred and fifty yards south-east of the Hotel. It issues from a hill on the North-Mountain side of the little valley which is flanked on the west by the Mill-Mountain range. The water is clear, though on standing, it gradually deposits a yellowish flocculent sediment, consisting essentially of hydrated peroxide of iron and organic matter. A deposit of this character is observed upon the sides and bottom of the basin, as well as around and below the outlet of the Spring. The flow, which is said to be somewhat variable, was estimated on the 6th and 10th of August, 1875, at twenty-five gallons per hour. The temperature of the water changes with the season, as will be seen by the following observations, the last two of which were made by the proprietor:

| <i>Date.</i>    | <i>Hour.</i> | <i>Temp. of Air.</i> | <i>Temp. of Spring.</i> |
|-----------------|--------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Aug. 5th, 1875, | 11 A. M.     | 76° F.               | 61°7 F.                 |
| " 6th, "        | 11 "         | 78°8 "               | 61°7 "                  |
| " 10th, "       | 11½ "        | 74°2 "               | 61°7 "                  |
| Nov. 17th, "    | 11 "         | 58° "                | 47° "                   |
| Dec. 12th, "    | 12 M.        | 29° "                | 34° "                   |

These variations show that the water is sensibly affected by surface influences, though it is understood that there has been no deficiency in supply, nor noticeable alteration in character since the discovery of the Spring in 1873. The sample for analysis was collected on the 10th of August, 1875, after a week of fair weather, though during the preceding fortnight there had been light showers nearly every day, and on the 1st and 2nd of August had rained with little interruption. The following are the results of the analysis, with reference to which it is to be stated that although the mode of associating the acid and basic ingredients found in a water is always to some extent arbitrary, yet the arrangement here adopted is believed to represent fairly the composition of the sample examined.

*Grains of Anhydrous constituents per gallon of 231 cubic inches.*

|  |         |                  |
|--|---------|------------------|
| Sodium Carbonate.....  | 0.05371 |                  |
| Lithium Carbonate.....   | trace.  |                  |
| Magnesium Carbonate.....   | 0.26454 |                  |
| Calcium Carbonate.....   | 0.57830 |                  |
| Iron Carbonate.....  | 1.21579 |                  |
| Manganese Carbonate.....   | 0.01088 |                  |
| Zinc Carbonate.....  | 0.00809 |                  |
| Nickel Carbonate.....  | trace.  |                  |
| Cobalt Carbonate.....  | trace.  |                  |
| Copper Carbonate.....  | trace.  |                  |
| Sodium Sulphate.....   | 0.43339 |                  |
| Potassium Sulphate.....  | 0.19302 |                  |
| Sodium Nitrate.....  | 0.08167 |                  |
| Ammonium Nitrate.....  | 0.01661 |                  |
| Calcium Phosphate.....   | 0.00184 |                  |
| Sodium Chloride.....   | 0.05287 |                  |
| Alumina.....   | 0.02653 |                  |
| Silica.....  | 0.46538 |                  |
| Organic Matter.....  | 0.44905 | Yielding         |
|  |         | Ammonia 0.00758. |
| Total (salts normal).....  | 3 87427 |                  |
| Carbonic Anhydride associated with the Car-<br>bonates to form Bi-Carbonates | 0.88833 |                  |
| Total (carbonates as acid salts).....  | 4.75760 |                  |

*Cubic inches of the gases per gallon.*

|                                 |        |
|---------------------------------|--------|
| Carbonic Anhydride (free).....  | 4.66   |
| Nitrogen.....                   | 3.25   |
| Oxygen.....                     | 0.60   |
| Light Carburetted Hydrogen..... | 0.09   |
| Sulphuretted Hydrogen.....      | trace. |
| Total.....                      | 8.60   |

The volumetric determination of the iron on the spot gave 1,219 grains of Ferrous Carbonate to the gallon. The gravimetric control at the laboratory, 1,216 grains per gallon. The Lithium was discovered by the spectroscope. The Nickel was found in the sediment, while the Cobalt was detected along with the other ingredients in the water itself. The Ammonia yielded by organic matter was estimated by the process of Wanklyn, Chapman and Smith.

It appears from the foregoing results that this water is quite a good and pure Chalybeate. It is moreover particularly interesting to observe that while it contains essentially the same elements which occur in the Rockbridge Alum Springs, yet these elements exist in such proportions and are so combined as to produce a water of totally different character. The Chalybeate is slightly alkaline, and its salts chiefly carbonates, while the alum water is acid and its salts almost entirely sulphates.

The Chalybeate has already been used with benefit, and if the water does not undergo any material alteration it will doubtless prove an important adjunct to the group of remarkable and valuable waters at the Rockbridge Alum Springs.

M. B. HARDIN

Va. Military Institute, Jan. 18, 1876.



The following letter is from a most intelligent gentleman of Virginia, intimately acquainted with the chief mineral springs of the State:

THE ROCKBRIDGE ALUM WATER A PROBABLE PREVENTIVE OF CHOLERA.

WILLIAM FRAZIER, Esq.—Dear Sir: The above caption may at first startle you: but I am convinced that a careful examination of the medical properties and effects of the *Salts* shown, by analysis, to be present in the ROCKBRIDGE ALUM WATER, will convince the most incredulous that there are very strong reasons for believing it true, and that if there be anywhere a curative agent which can be relied on to protect the human system against the grasp of *Cholera*, the admirable Mineral Water of your celebrated Springs is that remedy, if used in time, and taken with ordinary prudence as a *prophylactic or preventative*.

According to the analysis of Dr. Hayes, the eminent chemist of Boston, one gallon of the water contains the following:—

|                           |        |                           |           |
|---------------------------|--------|---------------------------|-----------|
| Sulphate of potash .....  | 1.765  | Free sulphuric acid ..... | 15.225    |
| Sulphate of lime.....     | 3.263  | Carbonic acid.....        | 7.356     |
| Sulphate of magnesia..... | 1.763  |                           |           |
| Protoxide of iron.....    | 4.863  |                           | 56.688    |
| Alumina.....              | 17.905 | Pure water.....           | 58315.312 |
| Crenate of ammonia.....   | 0.700  |                           |           |
| Chloride of sodium.....   | 1.008  |                           | 58372.000 |
| Silicic acid.....         | 2.340  |                           |           |

Let us examine the medicinal properties of these salts.

*Alumina*, as is well known to medical men, is, in small doses, astringent and anti-spasmodic; in large doses, purgative and emetic. Being diffused in the Alum Spring in the proportion of 17 or 18 grains to one gallon of water, enough of the latter cannot be taken to make a large dose of alumina.

Next to the alumina in quantity, and no doubt by far the most important in its effects, is the

*Sulphuric Acid*, of which one gallon of the water contains a little more than 15 grains. In regard to its effects a standard medical work says:

"Diluted Sulphuric Acid is tonic, refrigerant and astringent. It is given in low typhoid fevers, and often with advantage." \* \* \* \* "As an astringent, it is employed in colliquative sweats, passive hemorrhages and diarrheas dependent on a relaxed state of the mucous membrane of the intestines." \* \* \* \* "In the summer of 1851, attention was called by Mr. Buxton, of London, to the remarkable efficacy of diluted Sulphuric Acid in several forms of diarrhoea, especially choleraic diarrhoea. In October, 1853, Dr. H. W. Fuller, of St. George's Hospital, published a paper in the *London Medical Times and Gazette*, in which he strongly recommends it in choleraic diarrhoea from his own experience and that of his friends, in more than ninety cases without a single failure." These extracts are from U. S. Dispensatory Edition of 1863, page 936.

*Protoxide of Iron* is the very best form of iron for medical use, and is a powerful tonic.

*Carbonic Acid Water* is diuretic, diaphoretic and anti-emetic.

*Chloride of Sodium* is anti-septic.

More than four-fifths of the solid contents of the water are comprised in the salts already named, viz., Alumina, Sulphuric Acid, Protoxide of Iron, Carbonic Acid and Chloride of Sodium. Their combined properties are astringent, anti-spasmodic, tonic, refrigerant, diuretic, diaphoretic, anti-emetic and anti-septic. Of the remaining ingredients the *Sulphate of Lime* and *Silicic Acid* are comparatively inert; and the *Sulphates of Potash* and *Magnesia*, though laxative in their effects, are in too small portions to control or even materially to modify the action of the salts which predominate so largely in the water, the properties of which have already been stated.

It has been shown that the Sulphuric Acid alone, in the hands of the London physicians, cured *ninety* cases of choleraic diarrhoea without a single failure. That the remedy has at least not lost its reputation in

this formidable disease since that time, is proved by the fact that the article on that subject, first published in the U. S. Dispensatory of 1854, is republished without alteration in the same work for 1866.

The ROCKBRIDGE ALUM SPRINGS contain not only the Sulphuric Acid, but four other salts admirably adapted to the cure of diseases of relaxation and debility. All who are conversant with the properties of mineral waters know that medicinal agents diffused in them possess vastly more activity and virtue than the same quantity of the same substances taken as medicine from the drug store. In the first case nature is the chemist—in the second, man. A distinguished London physician, the late Dr. James Johnson, even asserts in his work on the Economy of Health, that *one grain of a mineral substance in a mineral water is equal to twenty grains prepared by the druggist.*

Bearing these facts in mind, it seems to me very difficult to resist the conclusion that the ROCKBRIDGE ALUM WATER, prudently used, would, in the great majority of cases, place the system in such a condition as *materially to lessen the probabilities* of an attack of choleraic diarrhoea. And as actual *cholera* is generally preceded by choleraic diarrhoea, in preventing the latter it will tend directly to prevent the former.

Let it be distinctly observed that I speak of the Alum Water as a *preventative* and *prophylactic*; for were a person actually attacked by cholera or choleraic diarrhoea it would not be the appropriate remedy. For the reason that mineral waters are not suitable remedies for acute diseases. But in matters like this how infinitely better is prevention than cure!

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AT HOME—NEAR COLUMBIA, S. C., 8th Oct., 1866.

WILLIAM FRAZIER—Sir: An earnest desire to benefit the suffering everywhere, together with a wish to extend the usefulness of the ROCKBRIDGE ALUM WATER, prompts me to write this letter.

For twelve or thirteen years I have been in bad health; my decline has been gradual since 1853 or '54, at which time I had a severe attack of Acute Rheumatism, connected with Dyspepsia, both in the most distressing and aggravated form. In 1861 a friend recommended to me the ALUM WATER. I was induced to order a box; after using it for a few weeks I was entirely relieved of all my worst symptoms. The continuance of the late unhappy war prevented my obtaining it, or I am satisfied that a permanent cure in my case would have been effected.

Last summer and fall all the worst symptoms of my disease began again to develop themselves. I visited Virginia and Baltimore, consulted the most eminent physicians, was treated by them, but without any relief whatever; I returned home, and have been confined to my bed for five or six months suffering with Dyspepsia, Chronic Diarrhoea, Inflammation of the Bladder, Kidneys, Derangement of the Liver, Inflammation of the Mucous Membrane, the most distressing Nausea, Loss of Appetite, being unable to retain the most simple food upon my stomach, until finally *Dropsy* in its very worst form supervened. My limbs became swollen and stiff, water accumulated in my abdomen and chest, the scrotum became dreadfully enlarged, the cuticle so tender and inflamed that the slightest abrasion produced sores—in fact, the general poverty of my system and rapid decline of strength betokened speedy death. I was treated by the best physicians here, used all the various preparations of Iron, Quinine, etc., etc., with the use of universal diuretics, all without the slightest avail. I found death inevitable, and concluded as a last resort to try once again the ALUM WATER. I ordered a box of your agents, Messrs. Purcell, Ladd & Co., of Richmond, Va., and after drinking it a few weeks I am rapidly recovering, being once again able to walk about. As I have seen no report of the cure of *Dropsy* by the use of the ALUM WATER, I write to say that in my case it has been the only remedy that has relieved me. I am confident that if the water is taken with proper caution, viz., one-half tumbler full three or four times a day, increased after several days to a full tumbler, a permanent cure of this distressing disease (dropsy) will be or can be effected.

I have such confidence in the great curative properties of these waters, that I have recommended them to several friends, who have ordered them. Under God's mercy they have been the means of saving my life on two occasions.

I am, sir, yours most respectfully,

S. B. BECKWITH.

# CERTIFICATES.

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Until recently no effort has been made to procure or preserve any record of the many wonderful cures that have unquestionably been effected by these remarkable waters. The present proprietors have rescued a few certificates that had been tendered to their predecessors, and add a few testimonials out of a large number of cures that have been wrought during their sojourn at the Springs. All these they know to be authentic; but they probably do not embrace one case in twenty, or one in fifty, of cure or benefit derived from the water. And, as a general thing, the whole class of female complaints must be passed over, or taken upon the verbal testimony of the physician and friends.

## SCROFULA.

*The Certificate of the Rev. N. B. Scriven, S. C.*

This is to certify that in the month of March, 1835, I was distressed with pain in one of my legs, which in a short time spread to my other leg, arms, and muscles of my neck. During the month of May following, inflamed tumors appeared on my head and collar-bone, which were pronounced scrofula by an experienced and skillful physician. Subsequently tumors appeared on my right arm and left shoulder, which all ulcerated. By this time my general health became exceedingly deranged. I was prostrated, having little or no appetite, and sometimes suffered great pain. The tumors and ulcers continued to spread over the surface of my head. In this situation, after trial of various medicines, I was advised to try the mineral waters of Virginia. I first went to the White Sulphur, and used the waters freely for eight days; thence to the Hot Springs, and thence to the Alum Springs, in Rockbridge County, where I arrived in August, 1838, and commenced the use of the water by drinking, gradually increasing to about twenty glasses, and bathing the parts affected three times per diem. Here I remained three weeks, and went to the Warm Springs, and after remaining there about nine days returned to the Alum Springs, where I remained six days more, making in all four weeks' constant use of the water. At this period I found my general health much improved, my appetite decidedly better, and the ulcers manifestly in a healing condition. On leaving these Springs, I carried with me a box of Alum Mass, which, on my return home, I continued to use in a solution with common water, by drinking and bathing. Under Divine blessing, by the month of January following, I found myself entirely recovered from this sad disease.

N. B. SCRIVEN, S. C.

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## DYSPEPSIA—CHRONIC PULMONARY DISEASE—ULCERATED SORE THROAT.

*Statement by Dr. Evans, of Amelia.*

PAINEVILLE, AMELIA CO., Va.

MR. A. MILLER—Dear Sir:—It affords me much pleasure to accede to your request that I should give a written statement of my opinion in regard to the influence which the Rockbridge Alum Water had upon your system some years since.



The aggravated dyspepsia which had well-nigh brought you to your grave, was so far removed in three weeks that you had since then only required a moderate degree of caution in diet to insure a very good share of active health. The chronic pulmonary disease, which is hereditary in your system, was very threatening at the time of your visit to the Alum Springs. A marked improvement occurred at once, and no severe attack has happened since. I have observed that for the last three years you have attended to active employments with all the appearances of good health.

Allow me also to mention the case of a young lady afflicted with a chronic inflammation of the throat, attended with deep ulcerations. The skill of our best physicians failed to afford her any relief; but a short visit of a few weeks to this watering-place relieved her *entirely and permanently*. I have this statement from the lady herself, and she is now in excellent health. The disease was cured years ago.

Very truly your friend,

M. F. T. EVANS.

*Complicated case of Mrs. Ryals, of Raleigh, N. C.*

For two years I have been a sufferer from Chronic Diarrhoea, the best physicians attending me, but affording only occasional and temporary relief. I have suffered a complication of disease, which had well-nigh brought me to the grave,—some of my ailments being such as are peculiar to females, others common to our nature. Some of our worst symptoms of the latter class are accurately described in the certificate of James B. Ellett, Esq., of King William, Va. In addition to all these, and the result of them, my whole nervous system was a wreck, so that life was a burden to me. My friends finally advised that possibly the Rockbridge Alum Springs might afford me some relief; if they could not, my case was hopeless. I resolved to try them, contrary to the advice of my physician, who thought me quite too weak to attempt the journey. With great difficulty I reached the Springs the first week in July, 1855, but for nearly three weeks was unable to use the waters; at the end of which time I commenced their use in small quantities, gradually increasing the same. My symptoms began at once to improve, and during the remainder of that month, and throughout the month of August, my ailments, one after another, gave way, so that, before leaving the Springs, I walked with ease over the surrounding hills, and by the 4th of September I was enabled to leave for home, restored to such a comfortable degree of health as I had not enjoyed for years past.

I must ever feel devoutly grateful to the Author and Giver of every good gift, for guiding my steps to that remarkable fountain, which has so far healed my bodily ills, and for giving me strength to reach it. Nor can I forbear to express my thanks to the proprietor, and all the inmates of his household, for their unceasing kindness and attention to my wants. In the midst of all the bustle of a crowded "season," they ceased not in their care for me.

MRS. E. S. RYALS.

*Raleigh, N. C.*

SCROFULA.

*Extracts from two letters from Mr. Bradshaw, Indiana.*

KNITSTOWN, January 15, 1840.

GENTLEMEN:—I would have written to you long since, had I been clear of the scrofula; but the affection in my nose had not disappeared, and I was still waiting in hopes that it would give way; but since the winter set in hard, I feel the effects of the disease very sensibly through my system. This, indeed, is not to be wondered at, when we reflect for a moment that the disease was so deeply grounded in my system, and of thirteen years' standing, and that too, from my youth; and that I was prostrate almost to the last stage of life. I am almost made to wonder that I am as free from it as I am. I have no doubt, if it was in my power to spend another summer at the Alum Springs, that it might, in the hands of God, be the means of restoring my health entirely. I have received more benefit from the use of the Rockbridge Alum Water the few weeks that I used it than I have done in thirteen years before from the most skillful physicians. I am as well satisfied that the Rockbridge Alum Springs would cure the scrofula as if I were now cured.

March 4, 1840.

My nose is yet a little sore; and that is the only part that has been affected since I left the Springs. I have not suffered much inconvenience from it this winter. I attribute my present state of health, through the mercy of God, to the use of the Alum Waters.

Yours, most respectfully,

J. P. BRADSHAW.

### CHRONIC LIVER-DISEASE.

*From the Rev. A. D. Metcalf, of Rockbridge, near Lexington, Va.*

GENTLEMEN: Having for several seasons visited your justly celebrated Springs, and having uniformly derived much advantage from the use of the water, I cheerfully add my testimony to its virtues. My disease is chronic liver-affection, accompanied with cough and dyspepsia. The water uniformly appeals to the liver, with great action on the bowels; improves the appetite and digestion, and produces a general tonic effect on the whole system. I feel well satisfied that I am indebted, to a large extent, to the virtue of the Alum Springs for a considerable portion of the health and comfort I have enjoyed since I tried its efficacy.

May 23, 1839.

A. D. METCALF.

*The Certificate of the Rev. Henry Ruffner, D. D., President of Washington College.*

I have been requested to certify my experience of the salutary effects of the Rockbridge Alum Spring water. I have repeatedly used it, and besides the good effects upon my general health, I found it peculiarly efficacious in discharging cutaneous eruptions and promoting a healthy action on the skin. No other medicine that I ever used had so remarkable virtue in this respect.

Lexington, Va., May 24, 1839.

HENRY RUFFNER.

### CHRONIC DIARRHŒA.

OREGON HILL, August 1, 1839.

GENTLEMEN: Having used and witnessed the effects of the Rockbridge Alum Spring water on different persons, I feel much pleasure in stating the high opinion entertained of its great medical value.

I can truly say that I have suffered more than I thought I could bear. Having been afflicted for four or five years with the worst bowel-complaint, I procured the best medical advice, and found nothing to relieve me. After being prostrated by disease for that length of time, I commenced using the Alum Spring water, and in the course of a few weeks I found a decided change for the better. At this time (now three months since I commenced the use of the water), I feel restored to health, my appetite is good, and my strength regained. Indeed, I feel like another man.

I can safely recommend the water to others, and have done so in several cases. I wish you all the success imaginable.

You are at liberty to make what use you think proper of this letter. But my changed condition and appearance is the best testimonial I could bring to those who have known of my sickness during the last four years.

Accept, sirs, assurances of my personal esteem,

And believe me, &c., &c.,

T. J. BETHEL.

### DYSPEPSIA.

*The Certificate of James McClung, Rockbridge County, Virginia.*

This is to certify that my daughter Jane had been complaining for about two years with the dyspepsia, and she attended the Rockbridge Alum Springs for a few weeks for two seasons, and has been in good health ever since—and that has been about eight years since, and she is in better health than she ever was.

March 31, 1840.

JAMES B. MCCLUNG.

## SCROFULA.

*The Certificate of Capt. J. U. Dickinson, of Millboro' Springs.*

This is to certify that my wife has been afflicted several years with Scrofula, and has tried different physicians, and made use of a great deal of medicine, without effect. She at length resorted to the Rockbridge Alum Springs, and used the water freely, both by drinking and bathing, which has almost restored her. I would, therefore, cheerfully recommend the use of the water to all suffering with scrofulous diseases.

*Millboro' Springs, March 23, 1840.*

JOHN U. DICKINSON.

*BEDFORD CO., August 22, 1844.*

This is to certify that my wife, Mary Wilson, was attacked with Scrofula about four years ago. Her neck was very much swollen and ulcerated for some eight months, during which time she received the attention of several physicians without any benefit, and was at last pronounced incurable. Hearing of the virtue of the Rockbridge Alum Water, and my wife being unable to go to the Springs herself, I procured some of the mass from which the pills are made, and she used the solution of this in water, regularly, three glasses, three times a day, for two weeks, when she seemed perfectly restored, and used but little afterwards. Since that time there has been no appearance whatever of the existence or the return of the disease.

JOHN W. WILSON.

## CANCROID ULCERATION OF THE NOSE.

GENTLEMEN: I received by the last mail yours of the 7th inst., and it affords me pleasure to contribute in any way to your pleasure and profit. I had for several years a small scab on the end of my nose that frequently would come off, leaving a very small speck that exhibited the appearance of disease. I went to Richmond in November, 1842; the weather was very cold, and I returned home in the cars and stage very sick with a cold, and my nose became very much diseased and somewhat swollen from constant blowing. I was very unwell indeed; confined to my bed, and much depressed. My friends prevailed upon me to permit the application of caustic to the small sore on the end of my nose. I consented that it should be applied only to the sore; but instead of confining it to the sore they covered the whole of my nose with the caustic plaster, which remained some twenty hours, and burned all the skin off, and I have no doubt produced the disease that caused me so much affliction and the loss of the cartilaginous part of my nose, it falling out of the fleshy part. Part slipped off, and the balance turned out, and exhibited the appearance as of the edge of a button-hole. I went to Philadelphia and New York, and consulted many of the most eminent physicians in both cities, and I formed an opinion from their expressions and appearance, that they all believed it would gradually progress until it destroyed my life. The physicians of Philadelphia, upon consultation, advised me to use freely Zittman's Decoction. I bought a large quantity of the materials for making and directions for using it, and returned home and used it freely for several months with very little if any benefit. Dr. Mott, of New York, whose sympathy and kindness I gratefully acknowledge but not more than my Philadelphia medical friends, seemed to feel deeply for me, and rendered me every attention without receiving any compensation, except that which arises from kind acts to an afflicted fellow-being.

I went to the Alum Springs and used the water bountifully; drank as much as I could, and bathed the diseased part by dipping it in some of the water from the middle spring very often during the day. After about ten days the place became apparently worse, and I should have left in despair had it not been for the kind assurances of Mrs. Taylor, of Norfolk, and her uncle, Mr. Ayres, who assured me if the use of the water did any good it would have the effect I described. In a few days the thickened edges began to disappear, and the sore to assume a healthy appearance. I brought some of the pills and extract of the water and some of the "mass" home with me, and continued the use of them about three weeks,



and then stopped about six weeks, until the next summer, when I returned to the Springs and used the water as before, and returned satisfied that the Alum Water had saved my life, and stopped, and, I hope, cured, a disease from which I anticipated a most loathsome and painful death.

I am perfectly satisfied that the waters are unequalled by any in the world for ulcers, and especially those of a scrofulous nature. I could, if it were necessary, relate the good effects of the use of the water and pills made out of the extract of the water in a variety of cases that came under my treatment and notice. There is a little negro here who labored under scrofulous ophthalmia, who was cured by taking the pills; and many other cases might be enumerated. If circumstances will permit, I hope to spend a few weeks under your hospitable roof and use the water again this summer. It would afford me great pleasure to meet again, when in better health, with my kind friends with whom I associated at the Alum Springs.

I remain, very sincerely, yours, &c. J. A. MIBANE, M. D.

You should during the winter make pills, as thousands of them could be sold.

*Greensboro', N. C., Feb. 16, 1851.*

### THE WORST CASE OF SCROFULA.

GENTLEMEN:—At your request I will give you a description of my case, and the effects of the Alum Water on me.

I had been laboring under a scrofulous ulceration of the throat, mouth, nose and face for several years; sometimes the ulcerations would cease a year or more, and I would seem apparently well, when the ulceration would commence again rapidly. I continued in that situation. Finally I became so alarmingly diseased that I despaired of ever being restored to health; and, as a last resort, my friends urged me to try the Alum Springs. I accordingly determined to give them a trial, but with little hope of being benefited by their use.

I visited them in June, 1847, and continued there seven weeks. When I first began to use the water, I imagined myself better, but in a day or so my sufferings greatly increased, the ulcerations enlarged and discharged more freely, and I declined rapidly; but I determined to persevere, as I had been told that if the water would benefit me any it would have that effect. I felt encouraged, and continued using it, although I grew worse every day. I bathed the ulcers several times a day in the strongest water, and drank water from all of the springs occasionally, but used out the spring under the rock mostly. I drank tea or a dozen glasses every day, and some days more when I could bear it. It nauseated my stomach very much and caused me to vomit frequently. After drinking the water three weeks, I was so much enfeebled, and suffered so much, I was advised to discontinue the water a short time. I drank none for four days; and I improved rapidly in that short time, and got so much better that I could walk about my room, and went out once or twice. I commenced using the water again, and it sickened me so much I concluded I would leave and go home. After using it about ten days longer, I accordingly left for home: and so soon as I left I began to improve again, and continued to improve throughout the fall, winter and spring. My general health was pretty well established, but the ulceration continued to some extent; and I again visited the Springs in July and August, 1848. The water had about the same effect on me as in the preceding year, but my system was braced up by its former use, and it did not prostrate me as it did before. I remained about six weeks, and drank from twelve to fifteen glasses per day. I usually drank three or four glasses before breakfast, and it frequently caused vomiting; but I considered that an advantage, as it helped to cleanse the stomach; and sometimes I would throw up bile and other filth. I seldom remained sick at the stomach more than ten or fifteen minutes, and I would drink again before I ate anything. My appetite was very poor most of the time; but I think it was fortunate for me, as it enabled me to drink more water. So soon as I left I commenced improving, and the ulceration ceased shortly after I returned home, and I have had no symptoms of disease since. I again visited the Springs in 1849. This time the water did not affect me near so sensibly as at other times, owing, no doubt, to my good health brought on by its former use. I remained about sixteen days, and have ever since enjoyed most excellent health. I attribute my recovery to the *Alum Springs*. I had em-

ployed eminent physicians, and used the most approved patent medicines. I lost half of my upper jaw-bone, my entire nose, and various small bones of my face; also a large portion of my palate bone.

Should any person similarly affected as myself desire any information respecting my case, you can give them my address, and I will take great pleasure in giving them any information in my power. You have my permission to use this statement as you think proper.

Most respectfully yours, ANNE E. YANCEY.

*Yanceyville, N. C., Feb. 17, 1851.*

### ACUTE PAINS--WITH ULCERATION OF THE SKIN.

GENTLEMEN:—I feel highly gratified at the opportunity afforded me of informing you of the great benefit I derived from the use of the Rockbridge Alum Water.

My disease made its appearance about two years before I visited the Springs, during which time my sufferings were most intense. Various were the remedies I tried, but none seemed to have any effect in arresting the disease. Finally I was induced to try the Rockbridge Alum Springs. I was at that time suffering severe pain in my limbs, together with several large ulcers on my face, where the disease first made its appearance. On reaching the Springs I drank from ten to twelve glasses of water during the day, and bathed my face twice in that time. The water at first appeared to be unfavorable to my disease, as my face became more gleeated and inflamed for about a fortnight, after which time I began to improve quite rapidly during my stay. My face is now entirely healed, though I still occasionally have some pain in my limbs. The use of the Rockbridge Alum Water afforded me more benefit than any thing I have ever tried; and it is to this that I owe my almost miraculous cure.

Respectfully,

A. H. MOSS.

*Patton's Hill, April 29, 1851.*

### BRONCHITIS.

*Certificate from the Rev. Cornelius Tyree.*

GENTLEMEN:—For the benefit of the afflicted, I take pleasure in thus relating what I have seen in others, and experienced in my own case, of the very remarkable efficacy of the Rockbridge Alum Water. Some four or five years ago I was greatly afflicted with the bronchitis, together with an inflamed chronic condition of the glands of the throat. At the same time my liver and stomach were much disordered. I found the usual remedies for these diseases entirely inefficacious in my case. I commenced the use of the Alum Water and soon found partial relief; and by continuing its use I have been almost entirely cured of the above diseases. Indeed, under the blessing of Providence, I attribute my present permanently improved state of health to the use of the Rockbridge Alum Water.

I have attended this Spring every summer for the last five or six years, and have during that time witnessed many instances in which it has cured cases of liver complaint, dyspepsia, cancer, bronchitis, sore throat, together with scrofula and cutaneous affections; many of which have been pronounced by physicians incurable. I make no hesitation in saying that it is by far the most valuable water in this country; it reaches many diseases that are otherwise incurable. For female diseases it has been found invaluable. It loses none of its virtue by transportation. I have used a barrel purchased of you, and have found it just as efficacious as when used at the Springs.

Yours, respectfully,

CORNELIUS TYREE,

*Powhatan Co., July 6, 1852.*

LIVER-DISEASES, WHETHER TORPID AND INDURATED,  
OR TOO ACTIVE.*From Major Yancey, of Buckingham.*

BUCKINGHAM, Feb. 22d, 1854.

GENTLEMEN:—Your favor, requesting my opinion of the curative properties of the Rockbridge Alum Springs, is received. If there is any correct or reliable analysis of these waters, it is unknown to me: but having been a visitor of your Springs for the last five years, has afforded me the opportunity of seeing a large number of persons with a great variety of disease, of which I have knowledge of the beneficial action of your waters. That they have cured scrofula, there is no doubt; for several such cures are within my own knowledge. These waters are famous for eruptions of the skin. Their action upon the liver is wonderful, whether in an indurated or torpid state, or too active in its secretions. I myself am witness, personally, as to the latter; and, as to the former, of torpid liver. I know of its curing Mr. Wilson, of Louisiana, who said his spleen and liver were dry and hard as a plank; the water invited secretions, and he went away cured. I have seen boys come here on crutches from injuries in the joints, running races in three or four weeks during my stay. I am free to say, I have no recollection of any diseased subject, whose acquaintance I formed, that did not report a beneficial action of the waters, except the cancerous and the consumptive. Your Springs have worked their own merited reputation far and near, in spite of the want of accommodation; and those who did obtain accommodation found it very rough. I have seen visitors, perhaps over one hundred, turned away for want of room during my stay each season. Provide ample accommodations, and you will have visitors to fill all your rooms. I ascribe much credit to you for the extensive improvements made in so short a time after you became possessed of the property. The completion of the Central Railroad to Staunton or beyond, will give greatly increased facility to travel, and the Packet Boats, for certainty and safety of passage, together with the grandeur of the mountain scenery above Lynchburg, will induce many to take that route.

Very respectfully, your most obedient,

CHARLES YANCEY.

To Messrs. Frazier and Randolph, Rockbridge Alum Springs.

## ASTHMA WITH DYSPEPSIA.

This will certify that for ten years past I have been subject to Asthma, with more or less of Dyspepsia, and for six or eight months before visiting these Springs was a constant sufferer, having no appetite and hardly any ability to digest food. After a few days' use of the Rockbridge water, at the Springs, my appetite began to return. In two weeks' time the Asthma disappeared, and has never troubled me since; and before I left the Springs my digestive organs seemed completely restored, so that I could without inconvenience eat heartily and with relish of any wholesome food. My visit was in the summer of 1855.

W. M. MALLORY.

*Cure of a most inveterate case of Scrofula.*

FREEPORT, ILLINOIS, October 20th, 1857.

MR. WM. FRAZIER—Dear Sir:—The remarkable cure which I have experienced at your Springs, of a most inveterate case of Scrofula, impels me to communicate it for the benefit and encouragement of others. From boyhood I had been a victim of the disease, and after many years of suffering I was compelled about two years since to undergo amputation of my left foot and leg. This did not by any means cure or eradicate the disease from my system. It still festered there and prevented the healing of the amputated limb.



It is now just a year ago that I arrived at the Springs in a most prostrate condition of my general health, emaciated, weak, and hardly able to use my crutch.

After only a few weeks' use of the water, I began to be sensible of a change going on in my system, and at once resolved to give it a full and fair trial. The action of the water upon the various secretions soon began to have the effect of throwing out the disease upon the surface in the form of unsightly blotches, which after a time would dry up and scale off. Then others would appear, discharge, and dry off or disappear in like manner. This process continued throughout the winter. Meanwhile my strength had greatly increased, my appetite was good, and by the return of spring, not only had I improved in flesh, but a new skin seemed to have formed. Before the beginning of summer and the regular watering-season, I had so grown in flesh that I could not possibly have worn the clothes in which I came to the Springs. The sore at the point of amputation had, by this time, gradually but completely healed. Doubtless I might now have returned home. But anxious at once to confirm and perfect the cure, as also to witness and enjoy the social attractions of "the season" at this famous fountain of health, I determined to make out my full year by remaining till October. I did so, and shall never regret it. It afforded me an opportunity of seeing an assembly of the most agreeable and cultivated persons from all parts of the Union, but chiefly from the South, as well as of witnessing the extraordinary powers of the water over disease in many of its worst forms.

Entire strangers to the Rockbridge Alum Waters might think me a little enthusiastic when I declare my conviction that as a remedial agent they are without a known rival, but one year's experience in my own person, and a summer's observation of a great variety of cures wrought by them, have fastened that conviction firmly in my mind.

It only remains that I thank you and your estimable lady for your uniform kindness, as also Mr. Sale and your other assistants for their attention and politeness, throughout my long sojourn at your pleasant home. Wishing you and them every prosperity and happiness, I remain

Yours truly,

O. M. BREWSTER.

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OXFORD, N. C., January 28th, 1858.

DEAR SIR:—I write to request that you will send me two boxes of the Rockbridge Alum Water. I want it for my daughter. You will be surprised, as you will, I know, be gratified, to learn that her health and constitution have been almost entirely resuscitated, and, as we are well satisfied, by the efficacy of the Rockbridge Alum Water alone, which she has constantly used, to the exclusion of all other waters, since our visit to the Springs last summer.

I regard her case as the most remarkable one I have known, or have seen reported, of the cures that have been effected by these waters; and I have not the least doubt but it will be so considered by all who saw her on the occasion of her visit to the Springs in the summer of 1857, not excepting the intelligent physician, Dr. Graham, who attended her.

I send directly to you, in order that I may be sure to get the water *in glass*, and not in wood. The last I got was from one of your agents, who happened to be entirely out of the boxes of bottled water; and I had to take it in a half-barrel.

Very sincerely, your friend,

JOHN C. TAYLOR.

TO WM. FRAZIER, Esq.

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#### DYSPEPSIA.

Mr. J. A. GRIGG, of Amelia County, Va., was cured in 1856, of the worst and most obdurate case of *Dyspepsia* I have ever known. He intended and promised me to write out a statement or history of it, and remarked that it would hardly be possible to exaggerate either the inveteracy of the malady, the extent of his suffering, or the completeness of his cure; which last indeed was obvious enough to the beholder.

WM. FRAZIER.

## SCROFULA OF THE EYES, WITH LOSS OF SIGHT.

*Certificate from W. W. Mallory, Esq., of Hanover, Va.*

JUNCTION, HANOVER CO., Feb. 24th, 1854.

Messrs. FRAZIER &amp; RANDOLPH:—

GENTLEMEN:—I intended long since to have written you in regard to my trip to the Rockbridge Alum Springs, last summer, with my little daughter. She was afflicted with a scrofulous disease of the face and eyes, and had been attended by several eminent physicians, but derived no benefit from their constant attention and acknowledged skill. It was at length suggested to me by one of the physicians, and many of my friends, to take her to the Rockbridge Alum Springs.

When I left home on the 10th of July last, she was emaciated to a mere skeleton, as it were,—had not opened her eyes for five or six weeks past; and I entertained great fears she would never be able to reach your place. However, she stood the journey, and very soon after her arrival commenced the use of the water both as a drink and local bath.

Pressing engagements of business only allowed me to remain with my wife and child six days; but before leaving for home I had the inexpressible gratification of seeing my little daughter running about the lawn with her eyes open, which had not been the case for months before.

My wife kept her there about one month longer, when she returned home greatly improved in her general health, and, though once blind, as I greatly feared, now having her eyes open and her sight fully restored, though the inflammation about her face had not entirely subsided.

Soon after this, a relative stopping at my house on his way to the Springs insisted on taking the child back. We gave our consent, and they proceeded to the Rockbridge Alum, but the great increase in the crowd of visitors there compelled them to go on to Bath Alum, where they remained two or three weeks, returned to the Rockbridge Alum, where they spent three weeks more, and then left for home. And when they came I found her eyes still greatly better, and a child only a few months before having no flesh, now hearty and weighing nearly double what she did the day she first left home.

Her eyes continue as they were when she left the Springs, though occasionally slight inflammation makes its appearance about the face. I shall take her to your Springs again next summer, and have not the smallest doubt, if she only derives half the benefit she did last season, she will be entirely restored. I have written this hastily, and would say I desire you not to use it publicly if I did not consider it my duty to let the afflicted with like disease know that my little child, once blind, is now seeing and well.

Please accept the thanks of myself and wife for the kind attentions she received during my absence, when I was compelled to put her under the care of your lady and most accommodating agents.

Yours, very respectfully,

W. W. MALLORY.

## DYSPEPSIA.

*Certificate of Robert Bolling, of Petersburg, Va.*

ALUM SPRINGS, VA., Sept., 15th, 1853.

I have for several years been in feeble health, and have for the last twelve months suffered greatly with dyspepsia; consulted the most skillful physicians in my part of the country, whose remedies gave only momentary relief. I determined to repair at once to the Alum Springs: left home on the 24th of August, and arrived there on the 26th, with fullness and tightness about the chest, pain in the head and eyes, and flushed face. When I commenced the use of the water, I determined to live abstemiously, in order to satisfy myself of its effects, and in four or five days felt great relief. I have now continued the use of the waters for nearly three weeks, and think I can return home in safety, with my health greatly improved. And let me say to the public, and dyspeptics particularly, instead of visiting the Sulphur Springs, come at once to the Alum, breathe the salubrious atmosphere, drink the healing waters, and be restored to better health.

ROBT. BOLLING.

## CHRONIC DIARRHŒA—DISEASE OF KIDNEYS—COUGH.

*The case of James B. Ellett, Esq., King William Co., Va.*

About four years since, I was attacked with *Chronic Diarrhœa*; my discharges amounting to eight or ten daily, of a thin, watery, and often mucous character. I had a very troublesome cough, attended with constant thirst and dry tongue. My expectoration was very considerable.

In addition to the diarrhœa, I had labored for many years under disease of my kidneys.

In this condition I was attacked with pneumonia in the winter of 1853, from which, after many weeks, I recovered, contrary to the expectation of my physicians. But it left me perfectly prostrated with my old maladies,—the diarrhœa and the affection of my kidneys. When I reached the Rockbridge Alum Springs—22d July, 1853—I could not stand or walk without being supported. I do not think I weighed one hundred pounds; had no appetite; always eight or ten discharges daily, of a mucous, watery character, and my cough most annoying. I had frequent spells of vomiting from my stomach, and could sleep but little. My whole condition was as bad as it well could be. When I left home, my friends never expected to see me return alive; and when I got to the Springs, no one who saw me or knew of my case believed it possible that I could long survive.

I commenced the use of the water in *very small quantities*, which, for the first few days, I sometimes threw up. Shortly, however, I found my strength and appetite improving, and the operations from my bowels less frequent and of a more healthy character. My liver, which had been in a most torpid state for a long time, began to act; my cough and expectoration to improve, as also the disease of my kidneys.

At the expiration of two weeks or a little upwards, I could and did walk a mile and a half. My health and whole condition continued to improve. I did not take, but pertinaciously refused to take, any other remedy except the Alum Water, and under its use I regained my strength and flesh; my torpid liver and chronic diarrhœa and cough and expectoration all left me entirely. It is now little over eleven months since I left the Springs. I have remained entirely free from the diarrhœa, cough and disease of kidneys ever since, and do know that I owe it all, under a kind Providence, to the Rockbridge Alum Springs. It may be well to add that I am in my sixty-sixth year.

JAMES B. ELLETT,  
Of King William County, Va.

## CHRONIC DIARRHŒA.

*From John S. Timberlake, Esq.*

DEAR SIR:—

\* \* \* \* \*

I hope, and doubt not, your Springs have maintained their high reputation, and made an unusually good "season." I came to the Alum Springs broken down and debilitated from *Chronic Diarrhœa*, but now rejoice at restored health. Wishing you every success,

I am yours, sincerely, JNO. S. TIMBERLAKE.

Oct. 12, 1854.

CHRONIC DIARRHŒA.—*Mrs. Tatem's case.*

My wife, Mary F. Tatem, was attacked in June, 1853, with *Chronic Diarrhœa*, which, in spite of the skill of the best physicians, had brought her to the verge of the grave. She was almost a living skeleton, and her operations from ten to twelve daily, of the most unhealthy condition, bloody and frequently mucous, always entirely free from bile, and of yeasty appearance.

In the summer of 1854 I took her to the Rockbridge Alum Springs, with the vain hope of its being of some service to her; often fearing she would not live to reach her journey's end. A few days after she arrived at the Springs, her operations diminished in frequency, and began to assume a healthy complexion; she steadily improved in all respects; the diseased condition of her bowels, in less than three weeks, had subsided, and her emaciation and debility almost gone. Her tongue, which had presented a very red, raw appearance, has now assumed a natural, healthy condition.



I consider it one of the very worst cases of the disease, and feel that her recovery is attributable entirely to the use of the Rockbridge Alum Water.

This statement I make out of a feeling of gratitude, as well as of hope that it may be of service to others afflicted in the same way.

E. A. TATEM.

Tallahatchie County, Miss.

### SPINAL DISEASE, WITH NERVOUS PROSTRATION.

*Mr. J. C. Martin's case.*

This is to certify that I was taken with typhoid fever about five years ago, which left me with a spinal disease, loss of muscular energy, and general debility; and, in addition to the above diseases, I was taken with nocturnal emissions, accompanied with palpitation of the heart. After trying the most celebrated physicians in my vicinity without benefit, I then commenced using patent medicines; but nothing seemed to touch my disease. I determined, as the only alternative, to visit the Springs. I arrived at the Rock Alum the 21st of June, so feeble and languid that I did not choose a room, but entered my name on the register and lay down immediately on a settee which was in the room, until I could command strength to go up to my room, which was chosen for me by a gentleman who came on from Lexington with me. When I reached there I was in a state of great debility, with a deplorable condition of my nervous system. I suffered from an almost continual apprehension of evil, and from loss of sleep; my appetite was precarious, and all my energies, physical and mental, were impaired; nocturnal emissions, which increased my suffering and destroyed my strength, were of very frequent occurrence. After remaining at the Springs two weeks, I began to improve in strength and flesh. My appetite being restored, all my nervous symptoms began to subside; buoyancy and elasticity of spirits, to which I had long been a stranger, took the place of gloom and despondency; the nocturnal emissions have ceased; and I feel that my health is so far restored in all respects as to justify the hope that I am free from the terrible disease from which I have so long suffered, and that it is attributable to the Rockbridge Alum Water.

GOOCHLAND, July 25, 1854.

J. C. MARTIN.

### CHRONIC DYSENTERY.

HALIFAX, VA., January 15, 1856.

MR. FRAZIER—Dear Sir:—Please forward me another box of the Alum Water immediately on receipt of this—as it is the only remedy of the many I have tried which has ever afforded me any real benefit or lasting relief.

Yours truly,

THOS. BRUCE.

### SCROFULA.

LEAKSVILLE, ROCKINGHAM CO., N. C., Jan. 2, 1856.

Messrs. FRAZIER & RANDOLPH—Dear Sirs:—Having derived great benefit from the use of the Rockbridge Alum Water, I cannot refrain from adding my testimony to its virtues. In January last I was severely attacked with ulcers about my face and body, which was pronounced to be Scrofula. I employed eminent physicians for a length of time, and used the most popular patent medicines; but all failed to afford any relief. After suffering for several months very severely, I was solicited to visit the Alum Springs. I reached the Rockbridge Alum on the 27th May, almost unable to walk, and with very little hope of ever recovering; but I had used the water only about ten days when the ulcers began to heal, and in the course of four weeks had entirely disappeared and my strength was entirely regained. I remained at the Springs until the 19th July, (scarcely eight weeks), when I returned home, and have not since felt any symptoms of disease.

Very respectfully, yours, &c.

WM. H. ROBERTSON,

## THE ALUM MASS OR POWDERS.

The demand for these is steadily growing as the knowledge of their virtues extends. What is called the *mass* is nothing more nor less than the salts of the water obtained by evaporation in kettles. Of course, it is highly concentrated and powerful. Experience has demonstrated that it retains to a remarkable extent the medicinal qualities of the water, so as to serve as a substitute for the same in remote sections of the country, where the water itself cannot conveniently be transported. Accordingly, we are in the habit of forwarding it, *by mail*, to orders all over the country.

But the mass or powders are not a mere substitute for the water; they possess, *in certain cases*, advantages over the water itself; as in local applications, where a more concentrated wash is needed, or in certain delicate or diseased conditions of the stomach, where large draughts of water cannot be taken, the pill may serve a better purpose. But in such cases a physician should prescribe. These are exceptional cases, and the proprietors, who have no ambition to rank themselves as vendors of nostrums, frankly admit that *for general use* no *preparation* of the water can equal the limpid stream itself, as it flows from the mountain rock—nature's own laboratory and great alembic.

To reproduce the water from the mass, dissolve it in pure, soft water. A piece the size of a common pea, thoroughly dissolved, will make a tumbler of water as strong, perhaps stronger, than the spring water, or from 60 to 80 grains to the gallon. You must expect to have a *flat* taste as compared with the lively, pleasant impression of the water taken from the spring, or put up in glass bottles, well corked. But the *medicinal properties* largely remain in these salts. It is convenient to dissolve two or three gallons at a time in a demijohn.

Rev. WM. B. BROWNE, of Paris, Ky., Principal of the Female Seminary, writes as follows:

PARIS, KY., Jan. 23, 1860.

\* \* \* \* \* It is certainly desirable that those using the mass or powder should have some more definite guide in dissolving it so as to reproduce the water as nearly as possible like the original, than has been heretofore given in your pamphlet. My own practice has been to dissolve sixty (60) grains in a gallon of as pure rain-water as I could get; distilled water would be better. This I judge to be the proportion only from the result of the analysis given, and is probably not far from right. You can easily see, from a simple calculation, how much a pound would make,—as few persons have any idea how much of the water they buy in buying a pound of the powder or mass.

Of the valuable properties of the water, whether in its original form or as reproduced from the mass, I have no hesitation in speaking. My first experience of its value was in my own case, in 1851, when I had been suffering for several years with indigestion, accompanied with a constant tendency to chronic diarrhœa. The use of the water for a short time restored my system to a proper tone, and I have scarcely known since what dyspepsia is. For anything like chronic diarrhœa, I consider it invaluable, and have seen it tried in cases of dysentery or flux with complete success. In 1857 one of my children, in teething, was afflicted by an obstinate purging and vomiting, which completely baffled the physician, as nothing was retained on the stomach more than a few minutes, while its cries for water were constant and distressing. At this junction I suggested the Alum water, and by the consent of the physician it was tried, and with perfect success; the child recovered without a particle of other medicine, to the no small surprise of the doctor. Since then you may well suppose it has been a family medicine with us.

I have recommended it to ladies who were great sufferers with what are called sick headaches, and they have told me they never found such relief from any other remedy. Some of my friends here have used it in scrofulous affections with the most gratifying results. In short, I think I have reason to be, as I am, somewhat enthusiastic in regard to the remedial virtues of this medicine, prepared in Nature's great laboratory.

Anything in this hasty letter that you may think of any value in your pamphlet, you are at liberty to use. I believe in making widely known the virtues of the Rockbridge Alum water you will be doing a work of true benevolence. Truly yours,

WM. B. BROWNE,



ROSEVILLE, CHESTER DISTRICT, S. C., Dec. 14, 1857.

Mr. WM. FRAZIER—Dear Sir: I wish you to send me five dollars' worth of the Rockbridge Alum Mass immediately. What you sent me August last did wonders for me. My child, who had been reduced to a perfect skeleton from diarrhoea, consequent upon Scrofula, is now in perfect health.

I will state that I lost one of my children last year who was similarly affected. I also gave it to my brother, who had long been a sufferer from *Dyspepsia*, which terminated in a very extensive inflammation and ulceration of the bowels. He was reduced from one hundred and sixty-five to one hundred and five pounds. He commenced mending from the very first day that he took the Mass, and now weighs one hundred and fifty. His recovery is perfectly to the astonishment of all who saw him. I enclose a \$5 bank-note.

Yours respectfully,

WM. J. STEVENSON.

*From Rev Luther L. Hill, of Alabama.*

MONTGOMERY, ALA., Oct. 8, 1855.

WM. FRAZIER, ESQ.—Dear Sir: Through our mutual friend, Mr. M. Crary, the package of Rockbridge Alum Mass which you kindly sent me has been received. It is decidedly the most acceptable token of friendly regard ever bestowed upon me. You may judge of the estimate put upon it, when I assure you that not long since, while discussing with a friend the merits of the Rockbridge Alum Water and Mass, I stated to him that I had a fraction of a pound of the Mass left (having brought it with me from the Springs a year ago), and I regarded its use so indispensable to my health that *if I could not by any means replace it*, five hundred dollars would not be entertained for a moment as a consideration for it.

I have the most unqualified confidence in the virtues of the water, and it affords me great pleasure to be able to subserve your interest in promoting that of suffering humanity by recommending the use of the water and of the Mass to my friends and acquaintances. Mr. T—— has received his package, and contemplates taking his wife to your Springs next season.

I may add that I have been a sufferer for twelve years, during which time I have visited most of the leading watering-places in the United States, and it is but just to say that I derived far more benefit from my sojourn at the Rockbridge Alum Springs, in one summer, than from all the others put together.

I am, very respectfully, &c.,

LUTHER L. HILL.

*Extract of a Letter from Dr. Cartwright.*

NEW ORLEANS, June 2, 1855.

\* \* \* \* I have long been in the habit of recommending invalids to the Rockbridge Alum Springs. I think so highly of the water that I have imported it direct, and also have used the Alum powder or Mass, as it is called (a sediment collected from boiling the water), with much benefit in my practice.

\* \* \* \* \*

SAMUEL A. CARTWRIGHT.

[The residue of the above letter urges the proprietors to put up the water *in bottles* for transportation and use at a distance from the Springs. This, it will be perceived, is at length accomplished.]

*From the Rev. B. B. Ross, of Alabama.*

TUSKEGEE, ALA., Feb. 22, 1867.

Messrs. FRAZIER & RANDOLPH—Sirs: I need some of the Alum Mass or powder from your Springs. It has often *saved my life*, has checked my bowels when all other astringents and all opiates have failed. For many years I have kept it by me. In the last three days it has done me signal service, checking the ravages of diarrhoea when nothing else would. I must have it, if you have it or can make it.

PIKE COUNTY, Mo, February, 1857.

MR. WM. FRAZIER:—Having been cured of an aggravated case of Chronic Dysentery by the use of your Rockbridge waters last fall, I think it my duty to state the fact, not so much for your advantage as for the benefit of others, who are now suffering as I did for a long time.

Being on a visit last year to my friends and relatives in my native county of Albemarle, they persuaded me to visit your Springs and try whether I might not find some relief from them. I did so, and the waters cured me. But, without dictating to others, I will say that, *in my case* (and I believe in cases similar to mine), small doses of the water is not the thing. A free use of it stirred up and passed off the bile, gave to the liver and all my intestinal organs a healthy action, and in a few weeks restored me to comfortable health and strength.

How many thousands of persons there are in this my adopted State, and in this great basin of the Mississippi Valley, who, if they could reach that fountain of yours, or could have its waters brought to them, or if they knew anything at all about the Springs, would, in all human probability, regain their health and strength!

I will only add, that a peculiar excellence of your water is that, unlike most mineral waters, it is used as advantageously in the spring and fall (and I am told in the winter also) as in midsummer.

Yours, very respectfully,

JOHN C. CARTER.

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MILLBORO' SPRINGS, VA., Jan. 20, 1860.

Mr. WM. FRAZIER—Dear Sir: At your request I cheerfully state that my certificate (given to the late Mr. Campbell, your predecessor at the Alum Springs, bearing date March 26, 1840, and found on page 30), should now receive the following amendment, namely, that the improvement, which I then feared might be only temporary, has been permanent, and the cure radical and thorough; so that she has now for nearly twenty years past enjoyed excellent and vigorous health, her constitution seeming to have been entirely renovated; and yet, when I took her to those healing waters, she was so far gone that I and all her friends feared it was too late. I cheerfully and gratefully make this addition to my former statement.

Yours,

JOHN U. DICKINSON.

[Mr. Dickinson is one of the oldest magistrates of Bath County, and at different times a representative in the Legislature of Virginia.]







# ROCKBRIDGE ALUM SPRINGS WATER.

These famous medicinal Springs having recently passed into the hands of a Joint-stock Company, it is proposed to place the water on the market at a price bringing it within the reach of the invalid public.

For more than half a century it has grown steadily in repute as a Medicinal Agent in a wide range of Chronic Diseases, and prior to the late war it had attained a fame unapproached by any other mineral water in this country.

It first attained celebrity by its complete and unquestionable cure of *Serofula* in its worst and most aggravated forms. Outaneous Eruptive Diseases yielded to its action, and soon *Chronic Diarrhoea* and *Dysentery* were added to the lists of its conquests. The powerful *alterative* effects of the water early attracted the notice of the profession, and many of its most distinguished members have certified to its efficacy in a great variety of depraved conditions of the system, as *Torpid Liver*, *Hemorrhage from the Kidneys*, *Hemorrhoids*, *Chronic Bronchitis*, *Catarrh of the Throat and Nasal Passages*, *Lesions of the Mucous Membrane generally*. Multitudes of women can testify to its unsurpassed efficacy in the relief and cure of those ailments peculiar to their sex. The fine tonic properties of the water give it great potency in all *anomic* conditions of the system, invigorating the appetite and increasing and enriching the blood. It has repeatedly proven its efficacy in *Diabetes Mellitus*, speedily correcting the saccharine depravity of the urine, and restoring the wasted flesh and strength of the patient. Probably in no type of disease has its efficacy been better attested or more unfailing than in *Dyspepsia* in its varied and most distressing forms.

We have from under their hands written statements verifying all and much more than all we have here said, from such acknowledged authorities in medicine as Drs. Cabell and Davis, University of Va.; J. Gaillard Thomas and Thos. Addis Emmet, New York; Stone and Cartwright, New Orleans. The last named having broken in health and lost his hearing by his exposure and labors in Nat. Lee in the first invasion of Asiatic Cholera in this country, spent two years abroad in visiting and studying the most noted spas of Europe. On his return to this country he spent his first summer at the Rockbridge Alum Springs, and ever after as long as he lived he continued to send his patients of the Southern country to these Springs, and to order or prescribe the water for them. In a letter addressed by him to the former proprietor, Mr. Wm. Frazier, bearing date "New Orleans, July 28, 1855," after an elaborate comparison of this water, both in its constituent elements and its observed effects, with nearly all the most celebrated mineral waters of Europe, he concluded in these words: "In truth I know of no waters in Europe or America so rich in medical substances as that of your Rockbridge Springs."

And the advertisers wish to emphasize the fact that it was *this* Spring and none other (though another has surreptitiously appropriated them), that these words were written by that eminent man in science and the healing art.

To the list of medical names above printed, we might add a score of other distinguished physicians whose statements will be found in our Springs pamphlet.

This water will be sold in cases of one dozen half gallon bottles, delivered on the cars of the O. & O. R. R. at Goshen, at \$5.00 per case, and will shortly be placed with leading Druggists of the U. S. and Canada.



# The Water Put Up in Glass

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